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THURSDAY, JANUARY 13TH, 2011

## Support for headteacher remains strong as... Row breaks out after pupils take part in 'Yes' campaign launch

A COMPLAINT has been made to the Vale Council and Welsh Assembly after children in a Barry primary school took part in a 'Yes for Wales' referendum campaign event.

Kevin Mahoney, the local candidate for UKIP in last year's general

election, said he was amazed to see pupils from Barry Island Primary School sitting beside computers with a big 'Yes' displayed on them at a HUB event prior to Christmas.

The occasion was to mark Roger Lewis, the WRU chief executive, being announced as chairman of the 'Yes' campaign and was

**Report by TIM  
CHAPMAN**

shown on TV. The campaign seeks greater law-making powers for the Welsh Assembly and Barry Island's headteacher Janet Hayward and the chair of governors Lee Waters support it.

Mr Mahoney said: "I would like to know why schoolchildren took part in a political stunt and have written a complaint to the local authority's education officer Bryan Jefferys and the Education Minister Leighton Andrews."

Mr Mahoney said he believes it was "cynical manipulation of young students" and says that if an investigation finds that the pupils were used in a "political stunt", Mr Waters should be

removed from the board of governors, and Mrs Hayward should be suspended.

He added: "I find it quite incredible that despite using school children under the age of 11 in a political stunt, that not one education official or politician in the Vale area, or for that matter anywhere in Wales, instigated an inquiry until both I and UKIP MEP John Bufton made official complaints."

He said he understood an inquiry into what had happened was being undertaken by the school's board of governors, which he believed was "unsatisfactory" - and "in effect, the board of governors were investigating themselves and their own chairman's actions".

Among the questions

Mr Mahoney has posed in his letter are:

- Why were school children allowed to be used in a political publicity stunt?

- Could the council confirm whether the parents of the children involved in the publicity stunt had been asked for their consent for their children to be used in this manner?

- Did this political activity take place during normal school hours and if so how were the children allowed to be used in this manner, when they should have been undertaking normal educational activities?

- Could the council issue a reassurance that schoolchildren will not be allowed to be used in other political stunts?

(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 5)

## Bus service halted after attack

A transport service was temporarily suspended in part of Barry last week after a bus had one of its windows smashed.

The incident took place in the Gibbonsdown area of Barry on Wednesday evening, January 5. The 95 evening bus which runs from Llantwit Major to Cardiff via Barry, and is operated by EST Bus Ltd, was suspended in the Gibbonsdown area from January 5 - 10.

The Cardiff Bus daytime 95 service was unaffected and continued to run its normal route.

A Vale Council spokeswoman explained: "The incident took place on the Wednesday evening and was reported to the police."

"If anyone has any information that can help identify the culprits they are urged to contact Barry Police Station."

"The Vale Council and the bus operator apologise for any inconvenience the temporary suspension of service provided through Gibbonsdown may have caused to passengers."

"Such behaviour is totally unacceptable and can have very serious consequences."

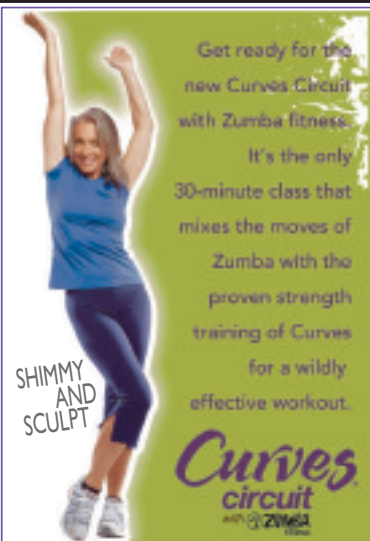
"Should further incidents occur, consideration will be given to re-routing the service on a permanent basis."

A Barry police spokesman reported: "An EST bus was travelling along St Brides Way towards Pencoedre Road, and while it was passing the Pendoylan Close junction, a stone was thrown at the side, smashing a window."

Anyone with information is asked to contact the police on 101 quoting crime reference number 62110005103."



**Lori Fitchett, the former head girl of Bryn Hafren Comprehensive, was presented with a national 'Student of the Year' award by Wales' First Minister Carwyn Jones this week. For more on Lori's achievement, turn to page 5.**



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## Gritting policy: Council replies

**A**S the cabinet member for visible and building services at the Vale of Glamorgan Council, I feel compelled to respond to the recent letter from Claire Curtis, Labour candidate for Barry Town Council, concerning this council not gritting Winston Road and Meggit Road in Barry.

Winter maintenance is within my cabinet portfolio, and I am justifiably proud that staff within the visible services section were able to keep the main highways of the Vale open during the recent snow fall.

The council currently treats 43 per cent of its highway network and we are simply not able to treat every road or bus route.

### 'Gritting review needed, but...'

**I** WAS rather surprised to see a recent letter from the Labour candidate for the Dyfan Ward by-election in Barry about gritting.

She is absolutely right, Winston Square was appalling and local buses were forced to use Port Road instead, meaning local residents were forced to remain in their homes.

In fact, I raised this matter at the last full council meeting of the Vale Council and was told by a Labour member that this was not the case and buses did serve this area.

With an election on the horizon, the Labour candidate not only repeats the points that I made and was shot down for, but also copied the

There are no significant inclines on Winston Road or Meggit Road and, therefore, whilst these roads are well used, they would not be considered as high a priority as some other roads within the Vale.

Readers will no doubt appreciate the demand for highway treatment.

Our contact centre received hundreds of service requests from residents for snow clearance and gritting during the recent cold weather.

At the end of our winter maintenance operations, we review our actions and consider any changes necessary to our current performance, including gritting routes.

Any additions to the current routes will, however, have to be balanced within our available budget.

**Coun Geoffrey Cox,** Cabinet member for visible and building services, Vale of Glamorgan Council

## Airport charges: 'trolleys needed to be replaced'

**A** RECENT letter by D Andrews of Llantwit Major criticised service at the airport, in relation to introducing charges for trolleys and access to the terminal.

Just because you charge for something doesn't mean it is bad service. When you use a service and are later required to contribute to making it better or keeping it going, that doesn't imply bad service either.

Charging and service are two different things.

For the avoidance of doubt, the old trolleys were out of date,

dilapidated and potentially hazardous so needed to be replaced.

Saying that foreign passengers may not have British coins and should not be charged for services at the airport, is like saying every country in the world cannot charge for anything, just in case visitors arrive and have to buy something.

However, the new trolleys do accept euros, as well as pounds.

The new trolley scheme brings Cardiff Airport in line with a number of other international and UK airports, including Bristol and Birmingham airports, who have also introduced a charge for trolleys, in order to provide a better

quality trolley service for passengers.

In terms of terminal access, visitors to the airport have the option of using the priority drop-and-go and priority pick-up areas outside the terminal building for £1, or a free drop-off and pick-up area in Long Stay 1 car park, a short distance from the terminal building.

Passengers are certainly not an inconvenience as D Andrews suggests, and we would encourage passengers to contact us directly with feedback.

**Cassie Houghton,** Cardiff Airport

## REMEMBERING PIONEERS OF THE FAIRGROUND

**I** READ with interest your article on John Collins and his well deserved OBE, but I must point out that his father, Pat Collins, was not the original founder of the fairground.

My grandfather, Thomas White, along with his brothers William and George and their father Sidney, brought the first rides to Barry. In 1897, Sidney purchased the original switchback railway, along with a few carousels and a set of swingboats made by him.

He operated them from the main beach each summer season; then in 1923, Barry Town Council replaced the tarmac shoreline road with a new promenade.

The fairground was then relocated from the beach to its current site.

Sidney and his sons became the first tenants and took control until the end of the 1929 season. They were known as The White Bros.

In 1930, the lease passed over to Mr Pat Collins and White Bros moved across the road to Cosy Corner, where the family continued to trade until the death of Jack Reahom, nephew of the White Bros in 2007. 100 years after Sidney White first brought his ride to Barry.

I felt I had to put the records straight as I do not want my family to be forgotten.

In the early years, the White Bros gave a lot of support to the town of Barry as its first developed.

**Mrs Pat Jones, Barry**

## Researching owner of Duke of Wellington

**A**S part of a family history project, I am researching Thomas Pratt (1887-1975) who kept the Duke of Wellington Hotel in Cowbridge.

He was originally from Worcestershire and had three brothers (two of whom died in the First World War) and a sister.

Thomas had children, George and Rose. I would love to hear from anyone who remembers him or his family, particularly any descendants.

My email address is [ss24@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ss24@soas.ac.uk).  
**Stephen Sanders, London**

## Litter-pick needed

**S**INCE the snowfall in December mercifully hid litter from view, surely it is now time for the council to redouble its efforts to clear our hedgerows, lanes and verges of the debris now uncovered.

Everywhere you look is in need of a litter-pick and the council must have saved at least a month's worth of time, money and effort during the wintry weather. So far this year, I have not seen anyone working on this problem.  
**Mrs ML Healey, Barry.**

## 'FocusBARRY and reality...'

**T**HEY may call themselves a new party ('FocusBARRY for a real bargain' in last week's GEM letters) but FocusBARRY seem more willing than anyone to resort to old politics of personal attacks and negative campaigning.

They will moan and promise everything to everyone, but know that they can deliver nothing.

My maths was never the best – but put simply, the Vale Council, which delivers 95 per cent of your local government services, consists of 47 councillors, and Barry contributes just 18 of those council-

lors. That means that even if FocusBARRY took every single seat in Barry, they would still be unable to take control of the Vale Council.

Of course, being called FocusBARRY, I suspect they would not get any support from the other towns and villages that make up the Vale of Glamorgan!

All FocusBARRY will do is ensure that the Conservatives, with Coun Gordon Kemp at the helm, will remain in control of the council.

As a Barrian born and bred, I am proud of my town and know that the Tories do not have the answers to the many problems facing Barry.  
**Coun Rob Curtis, Barry**

## 'Good luck to cinema group!'

**L**IKE the majority of residents of Barry, I was very sad the day the cinema closed; I was a regular user, as were my friends and family.

Visiting the cinema in Cardiff is so expensive, especially for families – and not just the admission price, but the refreshments and travel, too.

Well done to Vale Assembly Member Jane Hutt, who recently presented a petition to the Welsh Assembly's petition committee.

She has been working with the 'Save Our Cinema Association' since the cinema closed in 2007.

Barry is one of the

largest towns in Wales and to say that we no longer have a cinema seems ridiculous.

I am also very concerned at the potential plan to locate a 42-unit care facility on the site, not just because we would lose the cinema forever, but because this area of Barry is already very congested.

I do not believe it is a suitable location for an extra care residential scheme.

Good luck to the Save our Cinema Association and I promise my support in efforts to secure a cinema for Barry.  
**Claire Curtis** (Labour candidate for the Barry Town Council by-election in Dyfan ward)

## Foodstore plan: IS CAR PARK TOO BIG?

**M**AY I say a big thank you to the Bird family and Waitrose for affording us the opportunity to see the proposals for the new Waitrose supermarket, and to give our comments.

It is good news that such a reputable organisation is considering contributing to our town and developing the fast deteriorating former garden centre site.

I do, however, share some of Mr D Malone's concerns expressed last week, regarding the potential threat to existing family-owned provisions shops.

Are people aware also, that the proposed site is bigger than the current footprint of the former Hurrans? The plan as I understand it is for the car park to spread over the existing footpath right up to the wall

of Holy Cross Church. The footpath would be re-routed ('improved'), through the extended car park, and small but important areas of habitat obliterated under yet more tarmac. To my mind, this proposal is too big for the relatively small town-centre site.

I gather the extension of the ground-plan would allow for 150 parking spaces, rather than 100 on the current area.

Bearing in mind that these spaces would turn over throughout the day, do we really need to make the car-park so big, attracting so many cars right into the very heart of our small town which already struggles to cope safely with the volume of traffic – and in doing so, remove a charming, safe footpath to the High Street?  
**Mrs Margot Hopwood, Cowbridge**

## Thanks for response to Christmas appeal

**W**A BROWN and Son, Funeral Directors of Llantwit Major, would like to thank all who attended the bereavement memorial service in St Illtud's church, and for the donations given for the memorial Christmas tree.

Altogether, the sum of £200 was raised and will be shared between St John Ambulance Brigade and the Galilee chapel project at the church.

**A G Thompson,** Funeral Director

## School is a credit to Llantwit Major

**O**N December 15, the Wednesday over-60s group at Bethel Baptist Church were invited to the Comprehensive School, Llantwit Major, for lunch and a concert given by the pupils.

I would like to convey our sincere thanks to all of the staff and pupils who gave up so much of their time to ensure that everyone enjoyed themselves.

I also wish to thank the pupils for the wonderful hampers we were all given to go home with.

What a credit this school is to the town of Llantwit Major.  
**Frances Adney, Llantwit Major**

## HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL JANUARY 20)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time		Ht	Time		Ht
	AM	M		PM	M	
13 Thur	11.47	7.7				
14 Fri	00.23	7.5		13.03	7.4	
15 Sat	01.36	7.4		14.24	7.4	
16 Sun	02.57	7.6		15.30	7.8	
17 Mon	04.07	8.1		16.28	8.4	
18 Tues	05.01	8.7		17.27	8.9	
19 Wed	05.48	9.3		18.12	9.4	
20 Thur	06.32	9.8		19.02	9.9	

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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## FIRST TIME IN THE FREEZING WATERS...

# HOWARD IS SO COOL ABOUT BARRY SWIM!

A BARRY man wondered why his decision (at long last) to join friends in tackling the Barry Island New Year's Day swim, was attracting such attention.

For the last few years, 44-year-old Howard Cool has promised to follow his friend Gareth Harvey, and all the other fearless New Year's Day swimmers into the water.

This year, there was to be no backing out, because he found a 'GEM reporter' waiting outside to interview him about his preparation for his first swim.

What Howard didn't realise was that the interview had been arranged by Gareth, and the 'reporter' was a willing neighbour, Kevin Gwilliam.

Kevin played the role well, asking Howard and Gareth why they were taking the plunge, and how they had quietly and professionally prepared themselves on New Year's Eve for the physical challenge that awaited.

Howard said: "Well, I basically had a few less beers and a few more minutes of sleep than a typical New Year's Eve!"

The athlete was ready! However, Kevin the

reporter had one more request up his reporter's sleeve. "I asked the lads to strip down to their shorts on the cold street and strike a pose for the camera!"

"Gareth looked at me with a mixture of disbelief and laughter because, of course, he was the instigator of the wind-up, but Howard was very willing indeed to strip for his moment of fame!"

Gareth (aged 36) commented: "It was all great fun and Howard fell for it hook, line and sinker but I'm really pleased also that he actually did the swim for the first time in his life, something I know he is proud of."



Howard Cool (left) with Gareth Harvey.

**TREK ALONG WATERFRONT**  
A CASTLELAND Communities First family walk is taking place on January 16.

Meet at the Waterfront car park, opposite Morrisons at 2pm for a 90-minute walk from the Waterfront to Barry Island. Please note the walk may involve some steps. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear.

For more information, contact Jo Bass on 01446 709432.

## Found: three iPods

POLICE in Barry are trying to reunite three iPods with their owners. The three items have been handed to police officers recently in Barry, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major.

On Thursday, December 23, an iPod was found in Llantwit Major. A second iPod was found in Barry on New Year's Eve, and the third iPod was found on Bowmans Way in Cowbridge on New Year's Day.

Anyone who has lost an iPod or iPod touch over the Christmas period, or knows someone who has, should contact the lost property officer at Barry Police Station, Barbara Morris on 01446 731615.

## Regional AM welcomes anti-climb paint on alley gates

A REGIONAL Assembly Member has been told by the Vale Council that they have put anti-climb paint on alley gates in Castleland Street, Barry - after he made the request.

Chris Franks raised the issue with the council following complaints from residents. He said: "I am pleased that my request to the council for anti-climb paint on the alley gates in Castleland Street, Barry has been listened to. The work has been completed and the appropriate warning signage has been erected."

"Plaid has championed alley gates in the past and they have been successful in reducing anti-social behaviour."

"The Vale Council is responsible for the provision and maintenance of the alley gates."

"However, it is important that key holders remember their responsibilities to the wider community and ensure they close the gates every time they pass through them."

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MD2 • MAHARANI MEAL DEAL £18.95

A Grand Meal for 2:

• Any 2 Starters • Any 2 Mains • 2 Pulao Rice • 1 Nan Bread • 1 Side Dish

2 FREE CANS OF SOFT DRINK ON COLLECTION

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MD3 • MAHARAJA MEAL DEAL £35.95

A Luxurious Meal for 4:

• Any 4 Starters • Any 4 Mains • 4 Pulao Rice • 2 Nan Bread • 2 Side Dishes

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### REVIEWS

"Thank you for the lovely meal, as usual."

Mrs Jane Hutt AM

"Must have tried every take-away over the years, but this one is the best I have ever used and would honestly recommend it to anyone." Mr J Pete.

"Allow your taste buds to be well and truly pampered..." Mr A Smith

"Very good food, wish I'd found this take-away ages ago. Food arrived on time, hot, pleasant delivery staff. Will use again." Mr C Newlands

"Food was very good both in quantity and quality. Would use again without hesitation and also recommend." Mrs M Jones

"The best take-away in the area and that's the truth! Best service and the food is amazing." Mr R Hughes

### NEW YEAR PRIZE DRAW

3 Lucky Winners to be drawn!!!

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2nd Prize: MD2 • MAHARAJA MEAL DEAL FOR 2

3rd Prize: MD1 • RAJA MEAL DEAL FOR 1

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# SAINSBURY'S GETS ITS LICENCE

## – but campaigners say battle is not over yet

A councillor who has led the opposition to a Sainsbury's Local store in Park Crescent says the campaign will go on – despite the supermarket giant persuading a council committee to grant it an alcohol licence.

More than 4,000 people have demonstrated their opposition to a store in the old bike and tool shop opposite Romilly Junior School by signing a petition.

Last Friday, January 6, a council

committee granted a licence – and in February the Vale Council will consider planning for the site.

Coun Janice Charles, who made representations to the committee on behalf of local residents and businesses, said:

"It is not the right decision. All the signatures on the petition were from people who have a full understanding of the issues involved."

Opponents say there could be late night anti-social behaviour, that there is a safety issue with a school of 650 pupils just across the road,

and that there could be parking problems along what is already a busy road.

Coun Charles said that campaigners were unimpressed by Sainsbury's promises of CCTV to monitor any problems and to make early morning deliveries, pointing out that the school has an early morning breakfast club.

Coun Charles told The GEM: "The campaign will go on 'big time'. This was just the alcohol licence."

"I feel it is a case of the big boy brow-beating the small person."

On Tuesday evening, January 11,

### REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

Coun Charles' objection received the backing of the Barry Town Council planning committee after she presented a detailed report to councillors.

It highlighted problems with the location which included issues relating to traffic congestion, parking, road safety, noise, and the potential for additional anti-social behaviour.

She told the committee: "Anyone who is familiar with the area will know that this is a totally unsuitable location for a busy convenience

store."

Coun Charles emphasised that the location was unsuitable for an additional store because a traffic survey undertaken in November 2010 had already shown that 100,000 cars passed in front of the site in the course of a week.

The Vale's AM Jane Hutt said she had secured a meeting with Sainsbury's chiefs on January 21 to voice her concerns.

She said: "I made my objections to the application for a licence from Sainsbury's for a new

store in Park Crescent on the grounds that it would be hazardous and inappropriate opposite a primary school on a busy junction.

"In addition, the opening of such a store would decimate the prospects of local, long standing businesses in Park Crescent and the west of Barry."

Ian Johnson, of Plaid Cymru, said: "Many people at last

Friday's licence meeting were very frustrated by how everything took place.

"Unlike supermarkets who have experienced and qualified solicitors acting on their behalf, local residents are offered little protection to protect their communities."

A Sainsbury's spokeswoman pointed out that it takes its responsibility as a licensed retailer very seriously and has a

policy in place to prevent the sale of alcohol to minors.

She added that the store would be a positive addition to the community by providing greater choice, especially for those who wish to shop locally or who do not have a car.

If people do visit by car, Sainsbury's believe the planned car parking spaces will be sufficient to avoid parking issues.

### Former Lord Lieutenant dies at 95

## Local residents remember 'a woman of firsts'

by TIM CHAPMAN

**'A woman of firsts' who distinguished herself in a number of areas of Welsh and Vale life – that is one of the ways that Susan E Williams, who was born in Llantwit Major in 1915, will be remembered.**

Mrs Williams, who was born at The Ham in Llantwit on August 17, 1915, died on January 7 at the age of 95 at a hospital in Surrey.

She lived in Bonvilston for many years, then at Llanrumney Hall, and moved to Welsh St Donats with her husband, Charles Crofts Llewellyn Williams in 1950 – he died two years later.

Her nephew, Mr Rhydian Llewellyn, told The GEM: "She was a woman of firsts – a remarkable woman with a strong personality."

"In 2001 she had a serious stroke and was taken to the Princess of Wales Hospital. They thought that she wouldn't talk or walk again, but they didn't know her."

Mrs Williams recovered and lived for another decade!

Among the many notable firsts in her life was becoming the first woman High Sheriff of Glamorgan.

Mrs Williams was the great grand daughter of Charles Croft Williams, who was the Mayor of Cardiff four times and the first chairman of the Cardiff Gas, Light and Coke Company. A bust of her great grandfather is displayed in City Hall.



**ABOVE:**  
*Mrs Susan E Williams greeting Diana, Princess of Wales, on a visit to the area.*

During the war, Mrs Williams served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, retiring as a Wing Officer.

After the war, she distinguished herself with service to Welsh life. In 1958, she was awarded an MBE for helping with the Cardiff Empire and Commonwealth Games when she was in charge of all the women athletes.

She also made a huge contribution to life in the Vale. In 1961, she began serving as a JP; in 1968, she became the High Sheriff of Glamorgan; from 1973 to 1981, she was Deputy Lieutenant, and she was the first woman to be appointed County Lieutenant in Wales in 1981.

She became Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan in December 1985, following the retirement of Sir Cennydd Traherne.

Mrs Williams also served as president of

the Glamorgan Council for the Order of St John and president of the Royal Bath and Wells Show.

A keen horsewoman, she used to ride with the Glamorgan Hunt and her father, Mr R H Williams, was master of the hunt for 20 years. She was also the first woman steward at Chepstow Racecourse.

Mrs Williams and Johnny Clay, the former Glamorgan and England cricketer, jointly owned *Charlie H*, which in front of the one of the biggest crowds in years, won the 1972 Welsh Grand National. *Charlie H* came in two-and-a-half lengths clear of *Fair Vulcan*.

Mrs Williams had horses in training with Bob Turnell for more than 25 years, perhaps the best of them being *Tree Tangle*.

A service of thanksgiving will be held at Holy Cross Church on Friday, February 11 at 3pm.

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# Speed survey at 'Swan Bend'

**THE Vale Council has strongly defended the measures it has taken to promote safety on a stretch of road known in Dinas Powys as the Swan Bend.**

The council's response followed criticism made by regional Assembly Member, Chris Franks, who claimed that another accident indicated the council was showing a lack of interest.

Mr Franks lives in Dinas Powys and said it was alarming that the Vale Council had appeared to give the accident rate at the bend such a low priority.

Mr Franks said: "The potential at the Swan Bend for a catastrophic accident is clear to all who know the area."

"Residents have suggested that conditions have become worse since the main road was resurfaced, following the construction of the bus lane. It is very regrettable that the Vale has not replied to my letter and phone calls. This is very frustrating."

"Also, the failure to relay the 'hi-grip' safety surface must be a factor. The layout of the road at the Swan Bend is a nightmare. Drivers lose control, hit traffic barriers and bounce across the road in front of oncoming traffic."

"To be fair, the Vale

## REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

officers have repaired the safely barriers but now the new pedestrian railings are again damaged. At least on this occasion the railings protected any pedestrians who might have been walking along the pavement.

"Every accident may have a different cause. However, it does appear that inappropriate speed is often a factor. The better surface from the Merrie Harrier to Dinas Powys might be encouraging faster speeds. The Vale needs to report to the community what it intends to do to improve safety."

However, Andrew Loosemore, operational manager for highways and engineering at the Vale Council, said it had introduced a number of measures to promote safety.

"On the approach to the Swan Bend from the Llandough direction, there is already in existence a double bend warning sign, three sets of bilingual 'SLOW' road markings, and then at the bend itself a series of chevron signs, and crash barriers."

"An anti-skid road surface was applied in the late 1980s to improve the surface condition at that time. This surface remained in place until 2001, when the road was resurfaced. The new sur-

face would provide adequate skid resistance at this location and additional anti-skid treatment would not be required.

"However, we intend to arrange for the existing skid resistance to be checked and determine whether any further action be required."

"The pedestrian guard railings that are located outside the houses to the west of the bend are designed to prevent pedestrians stepping off the footway into the road. The footway at this location is too narrow to

allow vehicle crash barriers to be installed."

Mr Loosemore added: "Consideration is currently being given to the provision of a 30 mph 'driver feedback' sign located in advance of the bend, and to this end a vehicle speed survey is currently being undertaken. Once in receipt of the results of this survey we will be in a better position to consider this proposal."

"We will continue to look at further options; however, the road geometry at this location is unfortunately very restricted."

## Head girl's award



**A Barry student this week won the accolade of 'WJEC Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma Student of the Year'.**

Lori Fitchett, the former head of Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School, was presented with the award and a cheque for £100 by the First Minister Carwyn Jones AM in a special ceremony to mark the opening of the new WJEC premises on Western Avenue in Cardiff.

Lori was nominated for her enthusiasm and

commitment to the Welsh Baccalaureate course over the two year period.

Miss Memory, the manager of the Sixth Form at the school, said: "Lori, has been a role model to her peers in displaying a positive attitude. She has also encouraged fellow students in their Welsh Baccalaureate studies."

At present, Lori is studying radiotherapy and oncology at the University of Hertfordshire with a view to ultimately becoming a radio therapist and oncologist.

## Stephen's crossing patrol hat-trick

**A MAN described as 'never losing his patience or smile', has been named as the winner of the Vale Council's School Crossing Patrol of the Year - making him the first man to win the award in three years.**

Stephen William Crabb, who patrols Barry's High Street and Sant Baruc schools, was presented with his award at the annual ceremony, which recognises the hard work and dedication of school crossing patrols in the Vale.

He was presented with his award by Rob Thomas, the council's head of planning and transportation, who high-

lighted how Stephen had endured countless distractions over the past year due to the demolition and rebuilding of a nearby church hall, all the while continuing his duty in an exemplary manner.

On picking up the award, Stephen said: "It's nice to have recognition for our work. We work outside in all weather conditions and we greatly appreciate it when drivers are polite and patient."

**The area winners were as follows:**  
Barry East (covering Cadocton, Holton, Palmerston, Colcot and Jenner areas) - Jean Hatter. Jean has spent a great deal of time over the past year covering Court Road and Holton Road amongst others and

always makes a great impression wherever she's asked to go.

Barry West (covering Romilly, Gladstone, High Street, Trinity Street, Buttrills and Tynewydd areas) - Joy Strangward. Joy was given the award for working at one of the busiest crossings in the Vale, and serving Romilly Primary School for nearly nine years.

Eastern Vale (Sully, Dinas Powys and Penarth area) - Jane Haines. Jane is proactive both inside and outside Fairfield Primary and has been at her post on Wordsworth Avenue, Penarth, for seven and a half years.  
Western Vale (Rhoose, St Athan, Llanwit Major and Cowbridge areas) - Alex Daw. Alex is a previous award-winner and

## BRYN HAFREN SCHOOL NEWS



## CONSERVATION DAY AT ABERTHAW...

**THE sun shone on sixth formers from Bryn Hafren when they took part in the annual conservation day at Aberthaw Power Station Nature Reserve.**

The students, as part of their Welsh Baccalaureate Community participation, cleaned the beach and did some clearing work in the

woodland.

Lauren O'Connel, the sixth form leader of Bryn Hafren's Eco group said: "It was great fun and very worthwhile. The reserve is a wonderful environment for wildlife and the surroundings are there for everyone to enjoy."

"We felt very pleased to be asked to contribute to the day."

## Welsh Bacc students face the Dragons' Den



**WELSH Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma students have been hard at work doing their team enterprise task this term.**

They had to select a charity and come up with a variety of ideas to raise funds for it. In order to gain stake money to fund their ideas they had to face a panel of teachers and explain their plans and persuade the 'dragons' that they were worth backing.

Miss Memory and Mr Allen, two of the dragons, were both impressed by the enthusiasm and standard of the presentations they witnessed.

## Pupils help out charity



## Storm over 'Yes' pupils

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Bryan Jeffreys, the Vale Council's director of learning and development, said: "I can confirm that a complaint has been received and that it is being dealt with through established procedures."

The GEM understands that the matter is being investigated by Mr David Vining the governing body's vice-chairman.

Under Mrs Hayward, Barry Island Primary School, has developed a "cutting edge" reputation, winning a national award in areas such as information technology, ecology and film-making.

She drew strong support from the former Education Minister, Jane Davidson, who has visited the school and commented: "This is an outrageous political attack on one of Wales's top headteachers. Janet Hayward has long been recognised as an outstanding public sector leader and her school was top in the UK for IT performance."

"UKIP should be ashamed of themselves for bringing party politics into education."

A Yes for Wales spokeswoman also

attacked UKIP.

She said: "We are saddened by this partisan attack from the UK Independence Party on a campaign that is above party politics."

"The Yes for Wales campaign is confident it has acted entirely appropriately in this matter by involving the UK winner of the IT school of the year to launch our website."

"Children in schools across Wales learn about civic duties from an early age and school councils are actively engaged in local issues and decision making. All the children involved had the consent of their parents."

A Welsh Assembly Government spokesperson pointed out that local authorities are required to follow the governors' Guide to the Law and to ensure that governors are aware of the guidance.

The guidance points out that governing bodies, head teachers and local authorities must not allow teachers to promote one-sided political views when teaching and that teachers should present issues in a balanced way.



**ABOVE: Stephen William Crabb, who was named the Vale Council's School Crossing Patrol of the Year for 2010, with Rob Thomas, head of planning and transportation.**

**WHEN the plea came to Bryn Hafren school for help, four year-12 sixth formers were only too pleased to help.**

Emma Baggett, Rhian Rowlands, Jade Gratton and Charlotte Winton gave up their free time to help the charity 'Follow Your Dreams' by sorting booklets and mobile phone donation envelopes into bundles and then delivering them to various primary schools around Barry.

Jade said: "This charity is an organisation which not only raises awareness but sponsors people with learning disabilities to help them reach their full potential. "As part of our Welsh Baccalaureate qualification, we are encouraged to get involved in helping others."

"We were pleased to be able to support such a worthwhile charity."



## £750 bank boost gives double cause for a celebration!



ABOVE: Celebrating a cash windfall for the school!

YSGOL Gyfun Bro Morgannwg is currently celebrating its 10th anniversary and as part of the

festivities, a concert was held at the Memorial Hall in Barry last month showcasing the tal-

ent of pupils, both past and present.

Parent Claire Curtis organised a raffle, which her employers Barclays agreed to match £ for £ up to £750. Chair of the PTA 'Cryf' Linda Jones said: "I am thrilled to say that the raffle at the concert raised £780 and would like to thank Barclays Bank for agreeing to match the funds raised which will go towards improving the facilities for pupils at the school.

Claire said: "The concert was a wonderful example of the talent that we have here in the Vale and the school should be very proud of its pupils and teachers."

## Churches unite to launch two new celebrations

'CAROLS in the Castle' and 'Celebrating the Childhood of Jesus' were two new festive celebrations inaugurated recently by Churches Together in Cowbridge and District.

Both events were successful and proved very popular. The evening of December 22 saw 'Carols in the Castle' when about 30 people met at the Cowbridge cattle market ready to process to the castle.

The first carol singing stop was at Southways residential home.

Wendy Grant, deputy officer in charge at the home said: "The residents thoroughly enjoyed the singing. It was a real treat, especially as some other events had been cancelled in the home because of the snow."

The carol singers then processed to St Quentin's Castle, by way of Constitution Hill and Love Lane, where a short carol service with readings was held by lantern light and brass musical accompaniment.

The evening ended with people enjoying hot mulled apple juice. Grateful thanks go to The Manor House, St

Hilary for use of the lanterns and CADW for the use of the castle room.

On December 29 a meditative service celebrating the childhood of Christ was held at St Cadoc's Church.

The bi-lingual service (in Welsh and English) featured carols, readings and reflections.

There was plenty of music, with contributions from St Hilary Choir, Meibion y Machlud Male Voice Choir and the Whelan family singers.

It is hoped that more people will enjoy 'Carols in the Castle' and the meditative service, as part of the Cowbridge and district festive celebrations in future years.

The next upcoming event to be held by Churches Together in Cowbridge and District is an evening talk on ethics by Dr Idris Baker on January 24 at United Free Church Hall, 7.30pm.

KATE HIBBERT

## Vale AM calls for Ogmore vote to be made official

by PHILIP IRWIN

A ROW is still simmering after a Vale Council planning committee meeting where councillors voted to turn down a scheme to build houses at Ogmore-by-Sea.

At the December meeting, an application by Bridgend County Borough Council (CBCB) to build houses on the now-disused Ogmore Centre Trust was turned down by members – but that refusal was not recorded in the minutes.

The Vale Council planning chief, Rob Thomas, said that while members voted against approval of the application, which was being recommended by officers, the matter was deferred, to enable members to further consider the application – and to come up with suggestions about why it should be refused.

Mr Thomas said that it would be deferred until February's planning committee meeting.

Now, Vale AM Jane Hutt has entered the debate. She said: "I have already raised this mat-



ABOVE: Ogmore resident Len Williams with the Vale AM, Jane Hutt.

ter with the Welsh Assembly Government and the Public Services Ombudsman.

"I have had a large number of representations from constituents who attended the planning meeting on December 16 and witnessed a vote taking place, with a clear majority voting against the housing development to replace the Ogmore Centre."

She continued: "This vote should have been recorded in the minutes and I was extremely disturbed to hear that this was not rectified on January 6 at the planning committee."

"I have supported the local community council and residents in their valid objections to the development, and these were backed by the majority of councillors on the committee."

A Vale Council spokeswoman responded: "It is inaccurate to suggest that any request to amend the minutes of the December meeting was refused. The only matter to be considered by the members in the committee meeting on January 6 was to approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting in December."

"Following consideration of representations made by members and the council's officers, the minutes of the December meeting were unanimously approved."

"It is likely that this matter will be reported back to Planning Committee on February 3, when further consideration will be given to this application."

## Vale MP's advice surgeries

VALE MP Alun Cairns will be holding surgeries for advice and assistance on Friday, January 14 at the following locations:

1.30pm-3pm at Highlight Park Community Centre, Stirling Road, Barry; 4pm-5.30pm at the Rhose Community Centre, Stewart Road, Rhose.

Anyone in the Vale is welcome to attend, but surgeries are very busy, and it is advisable to call 01446 403814 to make an appointment.

## Roadworks report

Pontypridd Street - junction with Mount Pleasant, Barry – footway restriction in place. Colcot Road, between Winston Road and Whitwell Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.

## The 'Yes' campaign launched

THE Vale of Glamorgan 'Yes' campaign was formally launched on Saturday in Barry with campaigners from across the political spectrum coming together, hoping to secure the referendum vote for full law-making powers for the Welsh Assembly on March 3.

Local AMs Jane Hutt and Chris Franks were among those who supported the launch, and spoke to local people about the importance of a Yes vote for Wales.

## Castle supper dance raises £7,600 for RNLI

THE annual Christmas supper dance held at St. Donat's Castle in aid of the RNLI raised a magnificent sum of over £7,600.

The Llantwit Major Ladies' Guild who organised the event, worked hard to make the evening a success, ably supported by their husbands on bar duty, and by Atlantic College kitchen staff.

The evening followed the usual format of 3-course meal and dancing led by 'Vegas',

whose keyboard player, Keith, was also recruited to play for the traditional carol singing.

Said spokeswoman Linda Clarke:

"Thanks are due to all those who supported the evening: Atlantic College for kind permission to use the premises,

"Also all those businesses and individuals who donated raffle prizes.

"Last, but not least, the 200-plus loyal patrons, for whom this heralds the start of the festive season".

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## LOCAL INSTRUCTOR: 'IT'S A REAL PAIN'

# Learner drivers in Vale now face nine-week wait at the Cardiff test centre

**WAITING times for driving tests in Cardiff have increased by 50 per cent – in the wake of the closure of the Barry Test Centre, according to information obtained by an Assembly Member.**

The waiting times at Cardiff's Fairwater centre rose from six weeks at the end of November 2008 and December 2009 to nine weeks at the end of November 2010.

The Barry Test Centre closed in March last year, despite local protests, and regional Assembly Member Chris Franks used the Freedom of Information Act to find out from the Driving Standards Agency the most recent waiting times at the Fairwater complex in Cardiff.

He said: "The closure of the Barry Test Centre has been shown not only to affect people in Barry and the rest of the Vale, but those living in

Cardiff. The Driving Standards Agency said quite clearly in December 2009 that it had the spare capacity to absorb the diversion of demand from Barry, without compromising waiting service targets.

"Clearly, they have been found out and the results of my Freedom of Information request show the DSA need to look again at having a presence in Barry, particularly as it is the largest town in Wales.

"With VAT and tax on petrol rising even further, this closure decision will add even more costs for learner drivers, as well as driving instructors.

"Plaid imagine that people living in Cardiff also won't be best pleased having to wait longer for tests."

Mr Franks added: "Tory MP Alan Cairns failed to ensure that the decision to shut the Barry centre was reversed. It shows he has not got influence in Westminster."

Plaid's Assembly

by **TIM CHAPMAN**

candidate for the Vale, Dr Ian Johnson, added: "There has been a trend, first under the Labour UK Government and now under the Conservatives, that has seen facilities in Barry close, with Vale people expected to go to either Cardiff or Bridgend.

"Recently, we've had the police cells moved to Cardiff, the driving test centre moved to Cardiff and the decision to close the magistrates' court."

"These figures show that Cardiff does not have the capacity to take on the additional work from Barry, leading to higher waiting times for driving tests; as well as the massive inconvenience and extra cost for learners from the Vale having to travel to Fairwater to get used to the roads on which they'll be tested.

"With the rate of loss of facilities, Barry is in danger of becoming a

ghost town."

Local driving instructor Jim Stokes said that the switch to Cardiff had become "a real pain".

He explained: "The waiting period in Barry used to be three to four weeks – now it has more than doubled."

The MP for the Vale Alun Cairns said the decision by the last government to close the driving test centre in Barry was wrong, and that he had expressed this opinion before being elected as MP for the Vale in May 2010.

Mr Cairns said he would be raising the issue of the long waiting times with the transport Minister.

He explained: "I wholly opposed the closure at the time, and regret the decision taken by the last government in 2009."

"The prospect of reversing that decision could have been more expensive, particularly when public finances are tighter than at any time in living memory."

"The recent data about the long waiting times for driving tests in Cardiff, only underline the arguments presented by me, the test centre users and others in the community who opposed the closure at the time."

"I will be raising the matter with the transport Minister, as action is needed to reduce waiting times for the people of Barry and the Vale."

*The DSA argues that alternative test centres in Cardiff and Bridgend are within the "20-mile travel distance criterion" for people in the Vale.*

**Bridge PATSIE says that as she has been learning to play Bridge for a while, she would be interested to know if there are any players who would be interested in forming a club in**

## Metal thieves are taking their lives in their hands

by **TIM CHAPMAN**

**THIEVES in the Vale are taking their lives in their hands – in pursuit of valuable metals.**

Last week, two more instances came to light in which people took risks with their personal safety.

On Tuesday evening, January 4 10,000 homes in Penarth were cut off for an hour.

Engineers worked quickly to restore the power and at first were puzzled by what had caused the disruption to local homes.

But within a day Western Power Distribution had discovered that the power cut had been triggered by something other than a fault.

A spokeswoman explained "The cut was due to vandalism caused by metal theft. We have been experiencing these problems for the last year."

"The people responsible have caused a lot of damage and what they are doing is very dangerous."

"They caused a lot of disruption for people in Penarth."

"If anyone sees a person tampering with our apparatus or equipment we would ask them to contact the police or call our freephone line on 0800 052 04 00."

Last week, Holm View Leisure Centre

found that it, too, had been targeted – this time by people stealing lead from the roof.

Karl Jones, the manager, told The GEM that after a leak had sprung in an office, the workmen who were called in had pointed out that lead had been taken from the roof.

Dave Knevet, the operational manager for leisure and tourism at the Vale Council, said:

"Lead was stolen from the roof at Holm View during the Christmas period."

"Plans are advanced to install a new CCTV system at this site, to prevent such incidents in the future."



### COMMUNITY NEWS

**LLANBETHERY & LLANCAEFAN**  
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, maybe something could be put together.  
**Condolences**  
I am very sad to

announce the death of Squadron Leader Paul Gray, who was for many years a churchwarden at Saint Cadoc's.

His funeral will be on Friday January 28 at 10.15am in Saint Cadoc's church, Llancarfan.



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# STARGAZERS LOOK TO THE SKIES AS THE VALE RECORDS NEW YEAR FIRST!

AS a tie-in with the Stargazing Live series on BBC2, the first public event of the new year was held at Cardiff Astronomical Society's observatory on Saturday night.

The skies were clear and with low light pollution at Dyffryn Gardens people were able to look through a range of telescopes at many celestial wonders.

About 500 people attended and the early birds were treated to a good view of the International Space Station as it passed between Jupiter and a crescent Moon.

Help was on hand to give beginners a naked eye tour around the night sky and instruction on how to find such constellations such as the Plough, Orion, Taurus, Gemini, Perseus and Cassiopeia.

Through the telescopes, the public were treated to excellent views of the Andromeda Galaxy; the M42 nebula in Orion; details of some of the Moon's craters and the amazing gas giant planet Jupiter with four of its Moons looking like a miniature solar system.

When they had viewed the sky, they were then able to attend talks aimed at the beginner and watch a show of some stunning images taken by Society members.



**ABOVE:**  
A large number of keen astronomers attended the event to take advantage of the clean night skies over Dyffryn Gardens.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**  
by  
**PAUL JONES**  
For more pictures, go to:  
[www.valeevents.co.uk](http://www.valeevents.co.uk)

## CAOS looks to the future!

Cowbridge Amateur Operatic Society started 2010 not knowing whether they would have enough children to perform Annie, their chosen musical for that year.

It ended with it having been such a success that they have now formed their own youth group who call themselves TOTAL CAOS.

The group, which made a tentative debut at the Llantwit Major Christmas Lights Festival, has at its core those youngsters who performed so brilliantly in Annie but has already succeeded in attracting new members and is looking for more members aged between 8 and 16.

Contact the secretary Linda Coates on 07967 401693, or [linda.coates02@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:linda.coates02@yahoo.co.uk). Meetings will take place on Mondays from 5pm - 6.30pm at Wick Village Hall.



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## 'DREADFUL OFFENCES' – SAYS JUDGE

# Care home duo escape jail term

**TWO employees who worked in a South Glamorgan care home who ridiculed, frightened and distressed two elderly, vulnerable residents have walked free from Cardiff Crown Court after being given suspended sentences, for what Judge Philip Richards described as "dreadful offences".**

At a hearing last month, and following an eight-day trial, Eleni Saunders (22) of Wenvoe, and Helen Males (34) of Barry, were found guilty by majority verdicts of two charges of ill-treating or neglecting persons without mental capacity at the Old Rectory Care Home, Wenvoe.

The victims, the court heard, were aged 89 and 87, the last one of whom has since died.

Males, who, said the judge, had been the more responsible and "should have known better" was sentenced to a year's imprisonment, suspended for two years and ordered to carry out 250 hours unpaid work.

Saunders, said the judge, willingly subscribed to what was happening and thought it was "all great fun".

She received 38 weeks imprisonment, suspended for two years and was ordered to carry out 200 hours unpaid work.

Each was subject to a 24-week curfew between 8pm and 8am involving electronic tagging and to be subject to a supervision order for two years.

They were also debarred indefinitely from caring for elderly, vulnerable people and their names, said the judge, would be listed by the safeguarding authority.

### REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

He told the pair, who cried throughout the hearing, "I have to sentence each of you for offences which were quite dreadful.

"You were employed to look after people in the last years of their lives. You were employed to care for them, to provide for them, to ensure they were safe."

Instead, he said, they ridiculed them, frightened them, and caused them great distress.

They were not isolated occasions, said the judge, but took place repeatedly.

He added: "You may wish to reflect. How would it be if someone close to you was in a home and was being treated in the way you chose to treat those two?"

"You might think about your position when you are old. Is this how you would wish to be treated, as you decided to treat those elderly people?"

Each of the defendants, said the judge, had suffered the loss of their jobs, indignity and publicity, and a restriction of future job prospects.

He said that he was satisfied it was a case, which could only be punished by a custodial sentence. But immediate imprisonment would involve "unnecessary cruelty".

Prosecutor Leighton Hughes said the pair found it amusing to ill-treat the ladies, who they knew lacked mental capacity and were easy targets.

Matters came to light, he said, when another care assistant, Leah Jones, reported their behaviour.

One of the residents would have a rubber hand puppet in the shape of a goblin, thrust against her face and one of the defendants would growl.

The pair laughed when the victim would try to slide down in her chair and crawl away.

Another resident would have her ears flicked and one was insulted by the pair calling her sister a drug addict and a prostitute.

Both defendants were said to have no previous convictions.

Ruth Smith, for Saunders, said she continued to maintain the stance that she didn't commit the offences.

Said the judge: "I find it very difficult to accept that protestation of innocence."

Ms Smith said Saunders had played a secondary role and was at the periphery of the offences.

"Males was her superior and should have led by example."

Ms Smith said it was accepted that the case involved a breach of trust. There was, however, a very different side to

Saunders, who could be caring and loving.

"Unfortunately, her behaviour deteriorated."

Ms Smith said that she had been subjected to threats on Facebook and eyewitness hostility.

"Her picture appeared in the press, and she feared for her safety. Her family are shocked and devastated and she has had problems involving depression and self-harming."

Peter Wormold for Males said: "She has been stricken by the findings of the jury."

He said the mother of two has faced the opprobrium of the community, something which could continue for years.

He said she had worked at the home since the age of 16 and had been diligent.

"She never wants to work in such a demanding environment again. Her children are heavily dependent upon her and she is going to have to live with her shame for many years.

## Youthful talent to the fore in music competition

**MUSIC in the Vale comes up trumps again with an opportunity to perform at the Wales Millennium Centre for its 2010 finalists.**

Young singers and instrumentalists from the area will be among those performing at lunchtime this Saturday and Sunday – January 15 and 16.

On Saturday, Lois Aled from Penarth, who won the junior singer of the year award, will be performing, along with Llinos Haf Picton Jones, also from Penarth, who was awarded most promising young singer in the Vale. Also performing will be Rhydian Jenkins from Maesteg, intermediate singer of the year.

Joseph Keenan, from Penarth was runner-up in the intermediate instrumental competition and will be playing the saxophone along with Gem Phipps, a junior finalist (violin). Jennifer Marks an intermediate finalist from Barry will be playing piano.

On Sunday, Charlie Jean Clist, from Cowbridge, winner of

the senior instrumental musician of the year, will be playing the violin and Madeline Lloyd from Penarth, a junior finalist will be playing flute.

There will be eight performers on each of the two days. The Music in the Vale competition attracts young musicians from all over south Wales, including some from even further afield.

This year, they had the highest number of entries in the history of the competition and celebrated their 25th Anniversary. The standard of these finalists is just amazing.

Music in the Vale is proud to showcase the very best of the local musical talent, and to provide them with such a fantastic opportunity to further their musical education.

Admission to the concerts to be held on the Glanfa Stage at the Wales Millennium Centre is free of charge: Saturday, January 15, 1.15pm to 2.15pm; Sunday, January 16, 1.45pm to 2.45pm.

Ann Humphrey,

## RSPCA warns: 'Do NOT visit Llantrisant Common'

**THE RSPCA has reported a case of strangles, a highly contagious disease, in a horse at Llantrisant Common.**

The people whose horses graze on the land are doing what they can to contain the airborne equine respiratory infection but people are being strongly advised to keep away from the area for the time being.

RSPCA inspector Simon Evans said: "It is common for some people to go down and look at the horses on the common,

sometimes even to take horses with them.

"People are aware of the problem and are doing all they can to contain it.

"Our priority is making as many people as possible aware of the issue and the importance of keeping away.

"Although horses suffer from strangles, the disease can be carried by people, so it is extremely important that people, as well as other horses, do not visit the area."

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## Library closed

**Cowbridge Library re-opening has been delayed due to the adverse weather conditions. The library will now re-open at 9.30am on Monday January 24, 2011. We apologise for the inconvenience caused.**

**Customers are reminded that they may use the services of other libraries in the Vale.**



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## NEWS FROM THE BARRY MEN'S FORUM

## Mike pops in to lead us on a nostalgic journey!

**SOMETHING of a nostalgia-fest was provided by our speaker on January 6.**

Mr Mike Wilcock, who was born in Lancaster, took members back to a period at the start of the 'Swinging Sixties,' when performers and singers that are now household names were just emerging into the glare of publicity.

Mike obtained £100 to try and join them in a group of his own creation, but this group was destined to rise quickly into obscurity.

He quickly discovered his real talents lay in his skill performing as a disc jockey and in promoting

rock and pop groups, such as The Rolling Stones, before they became famous.

He did this in the evenings on the famous Morecambe Pier, early in that decade.

He took us back to a town that was famous in its day for those events and also for hosting the Miss Great Britain competitions in what was Britain's largest swimming pool.

This could hold 3,000 spectators and girls from all over the UK were tempted to reveal their charms in swimsuits, all for the chance of winning the £1,000 winners' prize.

The nearby ballroom at the end of the pier where the young Mike performed as both promoter and disc jockey could accommodate 2,000 dancers on its famous sprung floor.

During this period, our speaker was working full-time during the day in the textile industry.

He did his 'popstar' promotion and disc jockey work in the evenings and it was something of an exhausting life.

He was astute enough to obtain an early tape recorder onto which he downloaded hit numbers from the BBC's 'Top of the Pops' programme.

Before these numbers were released onto the

commercial market as 45 rpm records, he would play them on the pier in the evenings during breaks in the main performances.

Young people would therefore hear such numbers as 'Please, please me' on the pier before they could buy them in the shops.

Mike kept a detailed photographic record on his Ilford camera of many of the events that took place in those days and members of the Forum were interested in the sociological and historical aspects of the Miss Great Britain contests (together with their

shapely contestants) revealed in the many photos that were shown to them of these events.

He has also retained a number of original posters advertising the groups of that era that he was responsible for promoting.

Many of these are now eagerly sought after, particularly on the American market.

Meetings of the Forum are held at 10.30am on Thursday in the hall of the United Reformed Church in Barry. New members welcome. For further details contact 029 2059 4881. MAC TANNER

## CCTV assists with 12 arrests

**CCTV, under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with 12 arrests, two ASBO referrals and the location of one missing person in the week ending January 9.**

CCTV contacted the police on 67 occasions with three arrests made for public order and one concerning possession of drugs on Broad Street, Barry.

One arrest was made

for alleged criminal damage at York Place, Barry.

Three arrests were made involving attempted theft of a vehicle at Llanghorne Court, Barry. A missing person was located.

One arrest was made for alleged possession of drugs at Evans Street, Barry, while three were arrested over an affray at Holton Road.

In addition, two ASBO referrals were made, the first at Holton Road and the second at Dunlin Court, Barry.

## Vale actors attend 'Vampire' premiere



**THERE was lots of excitement and fun when Ferris Entertainment students and actors arrived at the premiere of their film 'Audition for a Vampire'.**

All the students attend the Ferris Entertainment acting classes in Penarth and include three GEM/Ferris Entertainment scholarship winners.

The film was shot in August in and around Penarth, but includes scenes filmed in such eerie locations as Stratford Upon Avon and Rennes Le Chateau in France, made famous in the *Da Vinci Code*.

The film will appear in film festivals around the world and is due for release in 2011.

However, what is most exciting is that the film will be seen by the Hollywood director David Lynch himself.

Peter Ferris explained: "I am very proud to be working on a project in Belfast with David Lynch, where we are erecting a building on the 'peace line' in the area that has been most affected by the 'Troubles', which will house our performing arts courses which are designed to inspire the people from the area."

"I am very proud that the film shows the incredible talent we have here in Penarth and what can be achieved when that natural talent is taught to a professional standard."

"There is no denying now these students are very very competent screen actors."



**RNLI EVENING**  
THE Barry fundraising branch of the RNLI is holding an SOS fundraising event. Spectrum on Song, an evening of song from the Spectrum Singers on Saturday, January 29 at 7.45pm at the St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road Barry.

Tickets are £10, including cheese and wine. Contact Chris on 01446 732195.

To become a volunteer fundraiser or to find out more, contact Jennie on 01446 734888 or Chris on 01446 732195.

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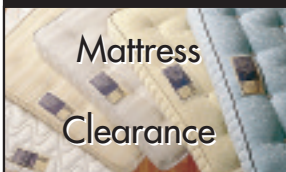
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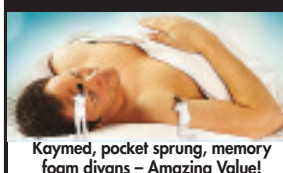
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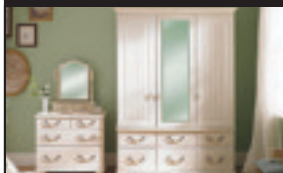
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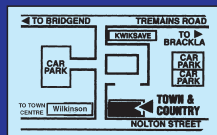
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## NOTICE TO QUIT, BUT....

# Town traders want Cowbridge Market to stay in business

**TRADERS** in Cowbridge have come out strongly on the side of keeping the cattle market in the town – at least until firm plans for a replacement use have been agreed.

At a meeting this week, the Cowbridge Chamber of Trade decided to support the efforts of Glamorgan Markets to stay beyond March 31, which is when the lease runs out.

The land is owned by the Vale Council, and the market has been given notice to quit on March 31.

However, the market operators, Herbert R Thomas and Watts and Morgan, have written to the council asking for a lease that will enable the market to continue, but with a three-month break clause in it.

The chairman of the chamber of trade, Alun John, pointed out: "It is

my understanding that the Vale Council will have to publish a development brief – and then that will need to go out to public consultation.

"Even if that brief is lying on a shelf at the Vale Council all ready to go, there could still be hold-ups during that consultation process, and it makes no sense to close the market prematurely."

He said that the chamber were very much in favour of retaining it in the short term, and everyone felt that the market had played a huge part in making Cowbridge what it was today – a historic market town.

He said: "Cowbridge is the rural hub of the Vale and, speaking personally, I would like to see the market stay."

He acknowledged that the long-term view of the chamber of trade was divided on this sub-

ject.

However, he insisted that traders did want to see the market as an option that could be considered when the public were consulted – and that could not be the case if the cattle market had been forced to quit.

Mr John said: "The market has helped Cowbridge, by making the area available for parking on non-market days."

"While we are on the subject of parking, the traders are adamant that there should be parking provision included in any new development

brief."

He added that now that Newport market had closed, farmers in the area faced a choice between taking livestock to Carmarthen or Abergavenny. As a result, there was a real need for it.

He insisted: The chamber can't see a good case for refusing a short term lease for the market, the only reason I can think of is that the Vale Council is determined to sell the land no matter what.

"The lower school site looks likely to be derelict for some time. We don't want another part of Cowbridge to be left to be in the same situation."

## 'Yes' to embrace future challenge for Wales urged

**CAMPAIGNERS** from Bridgend and Ogmere who want more powers for the National Assembly, are calling for laws that only affect Wales to be made in Wales.

The local Yes for Wales campaign for Bridgend and Ogmere has generated support from all political parties and communities across the county borough, urging people to give the National Assembly a stronger voice when they vote in the referendum on March 3.

Campaigners say a Yes vote will streamline the system, so instead of asking permission from Westminster to pass laws that only apply in Wales, Assembly Members can use all their time and energy making things better for Welsh communities.

Voting Yes is about looking forward not back. A Yes vote in the referendum in March will enable our Assembly Members to ensure that laws that affect only Wales are made in Wales.

We need a Yes vote to ensure that Wales is

ready to embrace the challenges of the future, a country that is able to hold its head high and act on the international stage, as it did in hosting the recent Ryder Cup.

The choice is between a more confident Wales where young people don't need to leave their communities in search of jobs, or a dependency culture where we look to others for solutions to our problems.

The local campaign is fully established and has begun canvassing. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 20, at 7.30pm at the Garth Senior Citizen's Hall, Bridgend Road Garth, Maesteg. Yes Campaign chairman and Welsh Rugby Union chief executive, Roger Lewis will be at the meeting.

Everyone supportive of further law making powers are welcome to attend regardless of which political party they support. For more information contact tim\_tom79@hotmail.com

**Tim Thomas** (Local Yes for Wales coordinator and Plaid candidate for Bridgend)

## £200,000 park facelift welcomed

A DECISION to spend over £200,000 on improvements to Iolo Park on Treharne Road, Barry was welcomed this week by Independent Councillor Richard Bertin.

He said he was grateful that regeneration money is being spent to provide a multi-use games area and play equipment, along with disabled access at the site.

"This is fantastic news for the local area and I would like to thank the staff who have worked hard to bring about the scheme. I look forward to it being completed in time for the summer," he added.

## Festive holiday voucher winner



ABOVE: Mr Jones receives his holiday vouchers from Chris Jones, director of Jones Dairies Ltd, Barry.

**CHRISTMAS** came early for Mr and Mrs Jones (no relation!) from Highlight Park, Barry.

On Christmas Eve, they were presented with a £500 Thomas Cook holiday voucher after being picked out as the winning customer in the Jones Dairies Direct Debit Prize Draw – many congratulations.

If you are interested

in having your milk delivered, or paying your milk bill by direct debit, please contact Jones Dairies Ltd on 01446 734729.

Jones Dairies would like to thank their customers for their continued support and many kind letters of appreciation received for the service provided during the snow. Also a big thank you to the staff for their commitment during the same period.

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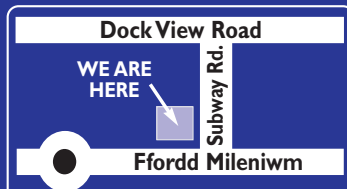


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# TY HAFAN IS BENEFICIARY AS VINTAGE TRACTORS ARE TESTED IN THE VALE...

## PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are  
available from this event.

Pictures can be purchased  
by contacting:

e-mail [ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk)  
or [www.ffotoimage.co.uk](http://www.ffotoimage.co.uk)  
(telephone 01446 773225).

Visit our studio in the Wool Barn,

ON Sunday, January 9, a vintage tractor event was held in the Vale.

It started in Arthur John's Cowbridge yard at 10.30am and was in aid of the Ty Hafan hospice at Sully. The tractor owners, who were from Bridgend, the Vale, Chepstow and Monmouth, travelled through the Vale to Llyswoerney and Colwinston, finishing at Llanmaes.

As Glyn Evans' photographs of the day show, the biggest challenge was going through the flooded ford at Castle-upon-Alun.



ABOVE: It looked shallower on the riverbank!

LEFT: The tractor convey are on the march.



## COMPANY'S £500 WINDFALL FOR VALE SCHOOL'S GREEN PROJECT

**LAFARGE** Cement's money to the school's project. Led by teacher Simeon Morris, it aims to create an outside learning area for the children within the school grounds.

The first part of the project is 'Pond of Paradise' - where the school plans to regenerate its existing pond to create homes for mini-beasts and plant bushes and trees which will attract other insects.

The team won another golf day, so decided to donate the

money to the school's project. Led by teacher Simeon Morris, it aims to create an outside learning area for the children within the school grounds.

The first part of the project is 'Pond of Paradise' - where the school plans to regenerate its existing pond to create homes for mini-beasts and plant bushes and trees which will attract other insects.

The next phase is for a nature area and environmental art area. The school has also seen the delivery of chickens for the newly built chicken coop.

Rhws Primary School is planning to make the bio-diversity area available to other groups in the local community including nurseries, Brownies and Scouts.

MW

## Deadline nears for Miss Wales competition

THE deadline is fast approaching for local beauties aiming to represent their county on the Miss Wales 2011 stage.

The closing date for applications is midnight on Monday, January 17.

The director of organisers Vibe, Paula Abbandonato, said: "We have watched so many girls grow in confidence and have fun through our regional heats that we want as many girls as possible to take advantage of this opportunity."

For the last two years, the winner of Miss Wales has come from the Vale of Glamorgan.

In 2009, the winner was Lucy Whitehouse, a nurse from Barry. The current Miss Wales, Courtenay Hamilton from St Donats, has recently returned from competing in the Miss World competition in China.

The finalists will be tasked with a series of fundraising initiatives for The Joshua Foundation - a charity that provides holidays and experiences for children with termi-

nal cancer. The Miss Wales 2010 competition raised £60,000 and organisers are hoping that this year will be even better.

A spokesman said: "The winner of Miss Vale of Glamorgan, the two runners up and the public vote winner will qualify for the Miss Wales competition in Cardiff this summer."

"The prize package for the Miss Wales winner includes free hair styling for a year at the Hair Business in Cowbridge, a modelling contract with Vibe, five evening dresses from Dress-Stop, trips to Lapland and Australia with the Joshua Foundation, along with the chance to represent Wales in the Miss World competition."

The Miss Vale of Glamorgan event is sponsored by leading supplier of eveningwear and prom wear, [www.dress-stop.com](http://www.dress-stop.com) and is open to young women aged 16-24 from across the county who have never been married or had children. They must also be Welsh.

To enter visit [www.misswales.co.uk](http://www.misswales.co.uk).



# BARRY'S BOXING DAY BEACH-CLEAN



**PHOTOGRAPHS by  
PAUL JONES**  
For more pictures, go to:  
[www.valeevents.co.uk](http://www.valeevents.co.uk)

BARRY-based environmental group 'Friends of Barry Beaches' held their Boxing Day litter pick on the Knap, with 18 volunteers braving the elements.

Six black bags of rubbish were collected and nine bags of recycling.

One of the items collected was a 10 inch knife.

Secretary of the group Verity Allely said: "Our next event will be held on January 30, at Whitmore Bay, Barry Island, meeting by Marco's Cafe at the usual time of 3pm.

"Once again, everyone is welcome to attend, but remember to wear warm clothing and strong boots!" **RC**



## Bank employee helps to raise £3,000 for charity



**MORE** than £3,000 was raised when Penarth bank worker Ailsa Lloyd recently helped to organise an evening of festive entertainment for friends and supporters of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

Barclays then matched the funds raised under the employee £ for £ scheme.

During the evening, the audience enjoyed singing, led by the Aber

Valley Male Voice Choir and the Tregaron Octet, including distinguished soloists: Leah-Mariah Jones, Eifion Thomas, Elizabeth Donovan and Deborah Morgan (who recited an extract of A Child's Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas).

They gave their services free for the evening.

Lessons were read from the Bible by supporters as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas.

Bishop Dominic Walker of Monmouth closed the evening with a blessing.

**ABOVE:**  
The soloists in action.

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# In Business Update

## Your passport to TV High Definition!

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Covering All Areas of Barry, The Vale, Cardiff, Bridgend and Newport

## Local expert Gareth is a one-of-a-kind advisor

**L**ANTWIT MAJOR man Gareth Tregidhan has been appointed to head up south Wales accountancy firm Bevan & Buckland's financial services department.

He is the only financial advisor in Wales to hold the internationally-recognised Certified Financial Planner CM qualification, as well as being an accredited Later Life Adviser (LLAA) with the Society of Later Life Advisers.

Gareth's role will be

to help clients plan their finances and prepare for their retirement, as state pensions and retirement ages get eroded even further.

He explained: "My specialisms are within investments, care fees planning, equity release and pensions. My aim is to help people who are close to or in retirement plan their finances."

"In this current economic climate, people need independent financial advice more than ever. We offer straightforward fee-based services, so you're guaranteed to receive impartial advice that's right for you."

## Allpump Services help customers to become more cost efficient...

**I**T'S all (pump) systems go at the office of Haydn and Eleri Lloyd.

At Allpump, there is always someone at the

end of the telephone who can advise customers on any technical issue, whether its advice on buying a pump or fittings to filtration and water systems.

A spokesman explained: "We offer good quality pumps that are value for money and cost effective."

"Allpump is conscious of the spiralling cost of energy and is helping customers to become more cost efficient and environmentally friendly."

"Allpump has recently introduced inverter control pumps that use less electricity."

"Addressing climate change, Allpump can run heating systems on wind-operating pumps, where electricity is not an option, solar for farm dairies and heat from plate coolers."

"With the potential of the government introduction of NDZ in Wales, Allpump Services are introducing a slurry separator, which can be used in conjunction with the existing Allpump dirty water system."

"This is potentially a major growth area as legislation changes."



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## Pitman training – work at a pace to suit you

**O**NE in three adults in the UK regrets not having got better qualifications while at school, according to research by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC).

Pitman Training is one of the best known and trusted providers of adult training in the UK and has more than 100 centres across the UK.

Pitman Training courses are all geared towards helping people get ahead in the world of work – building on existing skills, developing new ones and gaining in confidence.

The Pitman Training method of learning is completely flexible. Unlike traditional colleges or group-based courses, you can start learning whenever you're ready and work at the pace that suits you.

Pitman Training is not just about shorthand and typing. Courses range from basic computer skills (for the completely terrified!) to advanced secretarial diplomas and accounting.

Before starting a course, every learner has a free one-to-one consultation with a learning adviser to help them decide on the best course

for them.

Leanne Waring, centre manager for Pitman Training in Cardiff, said: "My own experience as a learner has shown me very clearly that we all learn differently."

"A classroom environment can be intimidating for some people. Pitman Training courses are all self-paced so that learners can choose to work at the speed that suits them."

"You can start a course at any time and learners can choose the study times that suit

them best, working around their existing work or family commitments."

A tutor is always on hand to answer questions and provide support and encouragement. "You can get on with updating or developing your skills as quickly as you want to and then use them to take your career to the next level."

For more information please contact Leanne Waring at Pitman Training, Cardiff on 02920 342020 or visit [www.pitman-cardiff.com](http://www.pitman-cardiff.com).

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GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

# In Business Update

## Cylch Meithrin – opportunity knocks...

**Cylch Meithrin Llantilltud Fawr**  
A new Welsh learning Nursery/Playgroup for pre-school children

Opens Monday 24th January at Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre, Station Road, LLANTWIT MAJOR, CF611ST

To discuss more fully contact Emma on: 07908 308294 or e-mail [cylchmeithrinllantilltudfawr@gmail.com](mailto:cylchmeithrinllantilltudfawr@gmail.com)

Supported by the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services through the Kick Start III Scheme

**H**AVE you ever wished you could speak another language? Do you hope that your children will be bilingual one day?

In 2009, a survey of parents identified a shortfall in capacity for Welsh medium primary education.

In 2010, a group of parents with children

under the age of four years of age got together to form a committee.

They identified the need for a Welsh programme for the pre-school children in the community.

This local committee of Welsh and non Welsh speakers will launch Cylch Meithrin, Llantilltud Fawr on January 24, 2011 at Western Vale Integrated Children's Centre, Station Road, Llantwit Major.

In the bright, colourful and spacious room at the centre, a new Welsh family will form.

Children will come from Llantwit Major and surrounding villages in the Vale to grow and develop their education and life skills under the Welsh medium.

If you would like further information or would like to discuss the opportunity for your child to attend a Welsh language nursery, please contact Emma of Cylch Meithrin, Llantilltud Fawr, on 07908 308294, or email [cylchmeithrinllantilltudfawr@gmail.com](mailto:cylchmeithrinllantilltudfawr@gmail.com).

**Vale Women's Business Network**  
**Trial by Handbag!**

Wednesday 19th January 2011 6.30-9pm at Trio Brasserie, Cowbridge

Guests and non-members are most welcome! (Guest membership for the evening is £6)

Please email members@vwbn.org.uk to book. [www.vwbn.org.uk](http://www.vwbn.org.uk)

## VWBN's 'Trial by handbag' event

**W**HY not make 2011 the year you invest in yourself and look like you mean business with the help of Sue Smart of [positivelysmart.com](http://positivelysmart.com)!

'Trial by Handbag' is the sort of event that is great fun – but which also has a huge impact on how you can feel more confident and stylish – as well as dressing to suit yourself and expressing your personality.

Sue Smart has been running her own consultancy since 2003 and as a colour and image specialist, delivers image workshops for major organisations, is an accomplished speaker, writer and broadcaster (BBC Radio Wales).

Join us on Wednesday January 19 at Trio; guest membership for the evening is just £6. Please contact us to book via email at [members@vwbn.org.uk](mailto:members@vwbn.org.uk).

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## NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY

## The bees stay active, despite cold weather

**HOW well have the bees contended with the weather? The Met Office recorded the coldest December since their records began and I think most of us would agree with that.**

On at least three mild days, I have seen bees active in one or two of the hives, and I am hoping to see more as the days start to lengthen and temperatures rise above freezing.

All of the hives were well provided for at the onset of winter, but it is the next few months when the bees begin to stir in earnest and consume the winter stores that will be of most concern to all beekeepers.

I do have a nucleus hive on site, which is showing much activity and that is very encouraging. The activity I speak of is not bees seeking forage of any kind, but coming out flying clear of the hive and voiding their bowels.

These cleansing flights are very necessary: if the bees fail to get out because of adverse conditions, they will perform the function in the hive and this can lead to the transfer of disease by the bees themselves as they set about cleaning their abode.

As a point of interest honeybees do not hibernate, they form a cluster (football shape) on several of the frames inside the hive, in the centre of which is the queen.

By using their flight

muscles (but not flying) they produce a shivering motion, which raises their temperature and consequently that of their surroundings. Doing this and consuming the stores put by for winter should see them survive until spring.

If the beekeeper has done his/her preparations prior to winter, the bees will have received treatment for any of the various diseases that they are subject to and will have also carried out Varroa control.

These treatments will not in themselves eradicate all that is harmful to the bees, but will help them in their fight to survive.

I have not been idle over these past few months; much equipment has been refurbished and cleaned where required.

New items are being made because when the spring arrives and the bees become active they, like the tide, will not wait for you.

The apiary itself is being cleaned up and put into order; in fact, Barbara and I have laid two bases at the Dyffryn site, as they will be needed in the coming year.

These bases are paving slabs dug into the ground a little and made level. The St Fagan's site is also receiving attention.

Be prepared should be your new year resolution (beekeepers that is).

**HAROLD WILLIAMS**

## DINAS POWYS WI NEWS

## Learning about work of Bobath

**THE first meeting of 2011 was held on Tuesday, January 4.**

Thirty-two stalwart members braved the elements and had an enjoyable evening.

The speaker was Claire Brown from Bobath Children's Therapy Centre, Wales, which is based in Whitchurch.

The centre treats children up to the age of 18 with cerebral palsy. Each year, one child in 400 will be born with cerebral palsy, which can be caused by lack of oxygen in the womb or at birth.

Cerebral palsy is not genetic. Each child is assessed as soon after birth as possible and given a personal programme to enable him/her to develop to their maximum ability. The centre is funded by

donation and fundraising events only.

Members were captivated by Claire and engaged in simple exercises to see how cerebral palsy can affect sufferers.

The monthly competition is an item from a country beginning with a different letter from the alphabet.

The letter was 'A' and the winner was Ann Fowler with a sandstone ornament from Algeria. The raffle was won by Su Colman.

Next month, the talk will be on The Restoration of Llandaff Cathedral – a topical subject, as it is 70 years since Cardiff was bombed. All are welcome on February 1 in the Lee Hall at 7.30 pm.

**BD**

## Immaculate Cleaning goes that extra step

**A**RE you fed up with endless cleaning and ironing? Had a busy day and just wish you could put your feet up and relax in a nice clean home? Well, now you can!

Immaculate Cleaning Services is a south Wales-based company special-

ising in domestic cleaning and ironing, also offering a carpet cleaning service.

A spokeswoman said: "We cover Bridgend, the Valleys, Porthcawl and the Vale."

"Being a company of impeccable standards, Immaculate Cleaning Service has 100 per cent positive customer feed-

back and prides itself on its dedication, reliability and perfection."

One satisfied customer said: "In nine years of having cleaners, no one has ever done as much for us as Immaculate Cleaning Services; they always go that one step further. We couldn't be happier. They really do leave your home immaculate!"

With competitive pricing and hard to beat quality, Immaculate Cleaning Services is a fast-growing business.

The spokeswoman pointed out: "We are also a perfect solution for busy working mums, helping to make their lives easier with the range of cleaning options that we offer."

"All staff are fully insured and Criminal Records Bureau checks can be provided if required. References are also available upon request."

"Why not call now for a free, no obligation quotation and start relaxing now? You won't regret it!"

"We will also be donating a percentage of all our monthly profits to one of the many charities that we support."

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# BRIDES & GROOMS



## Expert advice so important when booking your wedding photographs

**PHOTOGRAPHS by**  
**Mark Osman of Still Images**

**F**OR most people, their wedding day is the most important of their lives – and capturing memorable images to be enjoyed in years to come is an important part in organising the big day.

Local photographer Mark Osman of Still Images says that with packages ranging from £250 to £2,500, depending on whether it is a small civil ceremony or a full church wedding with a large reception, people had to think carefully about what is right for them.

"As a photographer I always try not to be intrusive. My aim is to produce photographs that will bring back memories forever.

"I try to take the bride and groom away from the crowd for half an hour to gain some special shots on their own.

"One bit of advice I do give clients is to have a couple of meetings with the photographer and make sure they like not only his or her style of photography, but that they are the right person to be part of the big day.

"I offer a low booking fee of £50 and the remainder can then be split into three payments, the last one being after the wedding to try and spread the cost for the bride and groom.

"With all my packages, I offer a pre-shoot that can have a large white mount and the guests can sign it when attending the wedding.

"I have even been asked to do one of a couple in the sea – which was fantastic."

Mark can be contacted on 01446 678099 and welcomes people into his studio for a chat about their requirements.



## Eternity with Love announce 'wedding fayre' programme

**Wedding Fayres**  
**Start Sunday, 30th January**  
For further information please email  
jamie@eternitywithlove.co.uk  
www.eternitywithlove.co.uk



**E**TERNITY WITH LOVE would first of all like to wish you a 'Happy New Year' and congratulate you on your forthcoming wedding!

A spokeswoman explained: "We are very excited to introduce our new spring and summer wedding fayre event programme. Our first event of the season is at The Cardiff Marriott on Sunday, January 30.

"We are also delighted to be working exclusively with House of Fraser Wedding List in

Cardiff, who will be sponsoring all Eternity with Love bridal goody bags for our wedding fayres throughout 2011.

"Please visit our website [www.eternitywithlove.co.uk](http://www.eternitywithlove.co.uk) for full details on our upcoming wedding fayres throughout south Wales."

**Other dates for February and March 2011 include – St Mellons Hotel, Cardiff – Sunday, February 6, Coed-Y-Mwstwr Hotel, Coychurch – Sunday, February 20, Bear Hotel, Cowbridge – Sunday, March 20, Caerphilly Castle – Sunday, March 27.**

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## LETTER FROM AMERICA

## Need for the Vale to twin with Haiti...

**I** AM writing to endorse the letters you have previously received and published in The GEM from Godfrey Knight and Vincent Smith, regarding the potential of twinning the Vale or Barry with the town of Pignon in Haiti.

I am the friend whom Mr Smith references in his letter and I spent 12 weeks of 2010 working with the people of Pignon.

This letter is being sent to provide a brief glimpse into the conditions surrounding Pignon.

It is a town located in the central plateau region on the island of Haiti.

The town itself does have a political structure of mayors who attend to the typical civil issues that arise on a daily basis.

Pignon is receiving paved streets for the first time in its history, provided by the federal government.

There is also a co-operative effort being executed to provide a central water supply.

This co-operative effort is being worked out between the federal government and local

non-governmental agencies. These activities are cause for great hope in the town of Pignon.

The daily living conditions are very hard. There are a few public wells located in town that provide water to the residents.

However, these wells are only opened up for public use a couple of times per week, to prevent their collapse.

During the days that the wells are locked down, the residents have to travel to the river and carry back water to their homes.

The river also serves as the place to wash clothes, water animals and bathe.

The recent outbreak of cholera demonstrates the severe lack of sanitation in Haiti.

The economic conditions are bleak at best. The current unemployment rate in Pignon is around the 75 per cent mark.

Most residents survive by trading whatever goods they can in a form of barter exchange.

The outlook for almost all residents is day-to-day survival at best. There is very little present in the way of sustainable economic activity.

Having painted a bleak picture in the above paragraphs, I would be remiss not to mention the vibrant spirit and will that the Haitian people possess.

There are smiling faces everywhere that you look, and a will to survive that is second to none.

I can't say that I see as many smiling faces walking down a street here in the US.

In conclusion, I urge you to give serious consideration to the humanitarian and cultural rewards of the proposed twinning of your area with Pignon.

Eric Krob,  
Lisbon, Iowa 52253, USA

## Freeze means repairs at the Market

**THE main entrance to Maesteg Market should be re-opened this week once work to repair the stonework above it commences.**

The entrance down the steps was closed before Christmas after some pieces of sandstone fell from the Town Hall which occupies the building above the basement market hall.

A spokesman for BCBC, which owns the building, said that the recent extremely cold weather has caused the problem and one of the market's three entrances had been closed for safety reasons.

Specialist contractors have now been appointed to carry out repairs and the door will be back in use as soon as scaffolding has been erected above it.

Work was due to start as soon as the scaffolding is in place.

Traders inside the market complained that the closure of this entrance had deterred some shoppers from using the market and they said that footfall was down.

# Harrowing tale keeps you glued to the screen

**I**F Danny Boyle was an excellent director lacking mainstream profile, then all that changed at the 2009 Academy Awards, when he picked up the best director statue for *Slumdog Millionaire*.

Since then, not only has Boyle's reputation swelled, but the director has been touted for everything, from the next James Bond outing (rumours which turned out to be false) to being the artistic director for the opening ceremony of the 2012 Olympic Games (which turned out to be true).

Having sat on the success of *Slumdog*... Boyle only now returns to the big screen with *127 Hours*.

It tells the true story of Aron Ralston (James Franco), a climber who became trapped between boulders for five days in 2003. With his life slipping away, Ralston is forced to make some huge sacrifices in order to keep himself alive...

Much like the proverbial bus, you wait for a film set in a single location and two come along pretty much after the other, but while the Ryan Reynolds-starring *Buried* was a fictitious tale of a man trapped in a coffin in Iraq, Danny Boyle's *127 Hours*, as harrowing as it is, is anything but a work of fiction, telling the story of how Aron Ralston's adventures canyoneering ended in tragedy.

In less skilled hands, Ralston's story could have been mishandled, a film where his trapping and attempts at rescue and escape are punctuated by dramatic devices that would have made the film far less of an engaging piece.

However, fresh from *Slumdog*'s Oscar success and the realisation that, yes, he is a pretty special director, Danny Boyle

## SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

turns in another visually striking film that looks massively impressive.

Kicking things off with triple split screen and never letting up the pace from then on, the film is a wondrous achievement in regard to visual composition and editing, the early part of the film leading to Ralston's accident shot through with verve and panache.

Boyle's films have always bubbled with visual invention (the toilet sequence from *Trainspotting*, post-zombie London in *28 Days Later*...) and here he seems to have swapped the Capra-via-Bollywood visuals of *Slumdog*... to something more akin to David Fincher, the camera zooming through boulder crevices and water bottles.

But as visually stunning as the film is, it is when it gets to the meat of the story that what it loses in pace, it more than gains in drama and tension. Shifting from the vibrant colours and fast cuts to something more muted and languid, Boyle never paints Ralston's predicament as overtly dramatic; in fact, the character is remarkably unconcerned at his situation, seemingly viewing it more as a minor inconvenience than an endangering experience.

However, at this point Boyle and Simon Beaufoy's script changes tack, concentrating on the character as his realisation that he isn't going to escape merges with the slow-dawning realisation that he is far too much of a lone wolf, unreliable on the assistance of other people and, based on his exchanges with two fellow canyoneers (played by Kate Mara and Amber Tamblyn), far too caught up in his own world.

Using his hallucinations, caused by lack of food and water, to take you out of his predicament and into dream sequences that tap into the character's psyche, concentrating on the girl that he broke up with, his sister's wedding that

he isn't going to make, and all the people who have orbited his life, Boyle and Beaufoy plot a redemption for the character that takes an almost biblical twist with the conclusion.

Ah yes, the conclusion; by now most people will have read or heard how Ralston freed himself from the boulder, and the answer is yes - it is as visceral, difficult to watch and painful as you have heard. However, it isn't shown in an exploitative way, Boyle's camera cutting (pardon the pun) in and around the actual act - though it isn't for the faint-hearted, as the sounds of the crowd who I watched the film with attested to!

Given that it is a film that rests wholly on the shoulders of its main performer, James Franco steps up to the plate and delivers a home run in a turn that is captivating, engaging and wholly believable. His real-life persona of being a seemingly care-free guy bleeds into the character, Ralston being of the '...whatever, man' kind, and while Franco cruises the early part with charm and charisma, it's when the situation unfolds that he really shows his ability, handling his transformation from barely bothered to truly concerned with aplomb and subtlety, the enormity of his precarious position being slowly unveiled by the actor.

The film does lack a sense of urgency. The playing out between Ralston getting trapped and freeing himself never feels like a race against time or a man being pushed to the edge, even when his food and water supplies are low; instead, the character just seems to be biding his time in the vain hope that help will come. While it doesn't subtract from the intentions of Boyle (giving the character a chance to 'redeem' himself), it does feel a touch odd that there isn't more of a panic in the character.

That being said, *127 Hours* is a sublime piece of work, superbly directed and incredibly well acted, and given the subject matter, rather uplifting - and, devoid of cliché, makes for a thoroughly captivating film.

**VERDICT** - Another success for Danny Boyle, *127 Hours* sees the director create a piece of work that is a strong telling of a harrowing true life story, yet is shot through with positivity and manages to avoid the genre types of the 'rescue' film.

With James Franco holding the fort with aplomb, this is one film that will engage from beginning to end. *Essential viewing.*

## Group enjoy festival delight

**THE last month has been very hectic for members, with a carol service at Gilgal Baptist Church.**

The minister gave a humorous sermon, which I'm sure signified the start of Christmas for everyone. We had our Christmas party, a sumptuous buffet prepared by the committee, and one member, Betty, won the cup for gaining the most points throughout the year.

Betty is our chief 'vote of thanks giver' and poet! All the members visited the Christmas tree exhibi-

## PORTRHAWL NEWTON WI NEWS

tion in All Saints. We went to St Fagans for the winter festival, with everyone dressed warmly and carrying torches.

We tried to keep together but soon got lost and ended up meeting in the restaurant.

We meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7pm at Gilgal Baptist Church, Woodland Avenue. If you would like to join us contact Rosemary on 01656 783772.

CT



# Health & Beauty

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

## Esporta winners

*THE winner of our recent competition to win a month's pass to the Esporta Bridgend health club were: RE Farmer, Cowbridge; Joan Harland, Barry; R Turner, Llantwit Major and Valerie J Waline-Wills, Bridgend.*

*Congratulations to the winners. Look out for more great GEM competitions throughout 2011.*

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**A** new year! Kids back in school? Time on your hands? Why not give yourself a lifestyle change, a little 'me' time?

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The staff are very friendly, so don't worry, if you have never ventured into a gym before, we are here to help!

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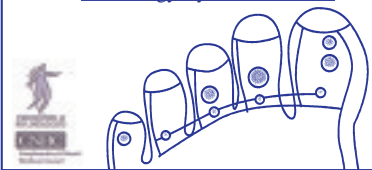
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5.30pm - 6.30pm (6 to 10 yrs)

**Every Thursday** Elfed Avenue Church,  
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**I**f you've embarked on a New Year fitness drive, but are starting to be tempted back to the sofa, takeaways and biscuits, then the remarkable health improvements achieved by the Turner family from Barry are sure to inspire you to keep hitting the gym.

Husband and wife David and Keri, together with daughter-in-law Sadie, recently lost an amazing 17 stone between them, with sensible eating and exercise sessions at Barry Leisure Centre central to their success.

All were regulars in the centre's LifeStyle Health & Fitness studio, using the range of fitness equipment available including weights, treadmills, rowing machines, cross trainers and Trixter bikes, while the Easyline suite let them tackle circuit training exercises in style.

A LifeStyle membership costs from £23.50 a month and allows you to use the fitness studios, swimming pools and fitness classes at the Vale's leisure centres.

For further details about how you can achieve your fitness goals, and to learn more about the Turner family's incredible weight-loss achievements, please visit [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres) or call 01446 403000.

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Spar), Penarth, every Monday starting January 10, 8pm-9pm (intermediate 9pm-10pm).

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(DANCE STUDIO)

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Tracy  
07894275853

**NEW CONSULTANT Penarth – Monday 7.30pm**  
Elfed Avenue Methodist Church  
Elfed Avenue  
Sarah  
07525852288

**DAY GROUPS THURSDAY Barry – 10.15am**  
Castelland Community Centre  
Belvedere Crescent  
Niki  
01446 740394

**Cowbridge – 10.00am**  
The Duke of Wellington High Street  
Lina – 01656 890708

**EVENING GROUPS MONDAY Barry – 4.30 & 6.30pm**  
Brynion Hall, Junction of Court Road & Llanover street  
Lorraine  
01446 407002

**Rhoose – 6.30pm**  
Celtic Way Community Centre  
Celtic Way  
Helen  
01446 750738

**TUESDAY Barry – 5.45pm**  
Market Street Social Club  
Upstairs Function Room  
Joanne  
01446 404897

**Barry – 4.30pm**  
St. David's Methodist Church Hall  
Winston Road  
Annmarie  
01446 736534

**Llantwit Major – 4.45 & 6.45pm**  
The Old School Wine Street  
Helen  
01446 750738

**Sully – 6.30pm**  
The Old School South Road  
Niki  
01446 740394

**WEDNESDAY Barry – 4.45 & 6.45pm**  
St. Francis Millennium Centre  
Park Rd, Porth-y-Castell  
Annmarie  
01446 736534

**Barry – 6.00pm**  
Cadoxton Methodist Church  
Church Road  
Joanne  
01446 404897

**Cowbridge – 6.00pm**  
Duke of Wellington High Street  
Lina – 01656 890708

**THURSDAY Barry – 6.00pm**  
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## Proof that community spirit is alive and well!



**HERE'S** an example of the 'older people' taking responsibility and clearing their part of Church Hill Close in Llanblethian, as highlighted in your front page article in last week's GEM.

The close is a popular choice to reside for those of a certain age but there is a fantastic sense of neighbourliness and support for each other, but especially towards the very elderly or less mobile residents.

Having a break from shovelling the snow and chipping the ice are, from left to right: Pat and Ian Drew, Mary and

Ron O'Leary and Iwan Lewis.  
Resident Sue Bradshaw Jones, who took the picture, got stuck in too!

**ABOVE:**  
Community spirit in full effect.

## COWBRIDGE AREA BRIDGE CLUBS NEWS

**RECENT results** are as follows:  
Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club (Monday, January 3)

First, Mary Moore and Diana Jones, 61.98 per cent; second, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams 61.46; third, David Wright and John Raymond 60.94; fourth, Marion and David Stephenson 60.42; fifth, Joan Jenkins and Mike Best 53.91; sixth, Barrie Waite and Graham

Norris 53.65.  
Cowbridge and District Bridge Club (Tuesday, January 4)  
First, Hugh Williams and Gordon Berrey, 68.13 per cent; second, Barbara and Colin Easterbrook 64.38; third, Mary Wallis and Myrtle Hansard 57.50; fourth, Teri Pollard and David Wright 55.63; fifth, Diana Lewis and Rita Williams 53.75; sixth, Mearl Owen and Debbie Rosevear 53.13.  
**DW**



# Out and About with The GEM

## The Vale joins in marking 'Holocaust Memorial Day'

**HOLOCAUST Memorial Day 2011 will be commemorated by an exhibition and a film premiere in the Vale – all part of the 'Untold Stories Holocaust Memorial Day 2011 – A First National Event for Wales'.**

The Vale Council, in partnership with the Welsh Assembly Government, Holocaust Memorial Trust, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre of Los Angeles, and the Memorial Hall and Theatre Barry, have worked together to develop the programme for the event.

People from across the

country were invited to share their 'Untold Stories' to mark the national event for Wales.

Art Central in Barry, the Vale Council's art gallery, is hosting an exhibition of the 'Untold Stories' that were submitted, including local and national stories, poems, photography, DVDs and art works.

Young people tell of their great grandparents' and other family members' World War II experiences.

Sully resident Eileen Youngusband also recounts her experiences as a World War II V2 rocket spotter, alongside many other, moving and fascinating personal tales.

The exhibition started

on January 11 and runs to February 26 (10am to 4pm), Tuesday to Saturday.

'Winston Churchill: Walking With Destiny' is the latest production by Moriah Films of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre of Los Angeles. The film's UK premiere has been included in Wales' national event and this will take place at the Barry Memorial Hall and Theatre on January 27 at 7.30pm.

The film focuses on Winston Churchill's years in the political wilderness, his early opposition to Hitler's rule, his support for Jews under threat by the Nazi regime, his return to government, and ascension to the Prime Minister's office in 1940.

Free tickets for the film premiere can be booked on the theatre website [memorialhalltheatre.co.uk](http://memorialhalltheatre.co.uk) or by calling 01446 738622.

At the premiere, there will also be the chance to see the artwork 'Journey Line' by conflict and war artist Nicola Tucker, whose work has been greatly influenced by the heartbreaking tragedy and horror of the Holocaust.

## SOS appeal goes out to local blood donors

**THE Welsh Blood Service has issued an urgent appeal for blood donors of groups O Rhesus Positive, A Rhesus Positive or O Rhesus Negative.**

"The recent bad weather, combined with winter colds and flu, has seriously reduced our blood stocks," explained Dr Geoff Poole, Director.

"During the snow, we had a shortfall of over 1,000 donations, which we now need to replace.

"To rebuild our stocks we need at least 600 people to come forward every day throughout January.

"We cannot meet the needs of our hospitals without the support of the people of Wales. At this difficult time, we need your support more than ever.

"Our blood stocks are at a seriously low level and we are making an urgent appeal for regular donors to make every effort to attend their next scheduled donation clinic during January.

"We are also appealing to those donors who have not donated for a while, and members of our communities who have not donated before, to come forward and make a lifesaving donation.

"To increase blood stocks the Welsh Blood Service is extending the opening times of some of its regular clinics and is also holding special blood donation clinics across Wales."

Visits [www.welsh-blood.org.uk](http://www.welsh-blood.org.uk) or call 0800 25 22 66 to find a session near you.

## High street raffle winner



**HIGH Street Traders at Barry recently announced the December winner of their monthly raffle which helps to raise money for events in High Street.**

Anthony Hopkins, the chairman of High Street Traders, is pictured above, with lucky winner Mrs Morgan and Tony Gratton of Tony's Café, who sold the winning ticket.

Tony said: "I'd like

to thank everyone who bought a raffle ticket throughout the year; if it wasn't for you, our events would not be possible.

"I'd also like to say

a big thank you to Barry Town Council and Vale Council for our wonderful Christmas lights and event," he added.

## FREE GIG BY VINYL EYES

**THIS Saturday (January 15) 'The Vinyl Eyes', Barry's newest covers band, will play live at the Park Hotel, Park Crescent, Barry.**

The band play a wide selection of rock covers, from old classics like the Rolling Stones, the Kinks, the Beatles and the Doors, to more modern hits from the Verve, Oasis, Kings of Leon and others.

It was formed by lead singer Ali Price, who moved to south Wales in 2008 from Bangor. Leon Hartley (on lead guitar) and Gareth Davies (on drums) from London and Carmarthen respectively, complete the line-up – along with local Barry musician Matt Blumberg (on bass and vocals).

The evening kicks off at 8pm and admission is FREE! For more information about the band, visit [www.myspace.com/thevinyleyes](http://www.myspace.com/thevinyleyes)

## Free course at enterprise centre

**COURSES at the Community Enterprise Centre, Skomer Road, Barry, include 'Moving On', a programme that helps people gain skills and confidence for employment, further learning or volunteering.**

The free course works on confidence, assertiveness and communication skills. It takes place 9.30am – 2.30pm for one day a week for six weeks.

For further information, telephone Sandra, Alyson or Bev, on 01446 733034

**The GEM and Ferris Entertainment offer a unique opportunity to local performers!**

## Win a scholarship for acting, singing and dancing...

**GEM/Ferris Entertainment Voucher valid for**

## FREE MASTERCLASS

**Your chance to learn from world class tutors in Screen-acting and Dance**

**JANUARY 15th from 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm at Stanwell Hall, Victoria Road, Penarth (Opposite Station Approach)**

**Participants must be 10 years of age or over.**

**ABOVE: Take this voucher along to the GEM/Ferris Entertainment free masterclass for the chance to win a term's free tuition.**

**FOLLOWING the great success over the last three years of the GEM/Ferris Entertainment Scholarship, two more lucky GEM readers – one male and one female – will be given the chance of a free term of tuition worth £155.**

At Ferris Entertainment Performing Arts Saturday Classes the talented winners will be taught screen acting by teachers who have taught the likes of Martine McCutcheon, Louise Redknapp, Claire Sweeney, Claire Goose, Sheree Murphy and Russell Brand to

name but a few!

Peter Ferris explained: "All you have to do is present your voucher from The GEM when you sign in at the free masterclass.

"You will then be given a badge to identify you to the teachers and principals of Ferris Entertainment Performing Arts.

"At the end of the masterclass two lucky GEM readers will be chosen by the teachers and awarded the scholarship.

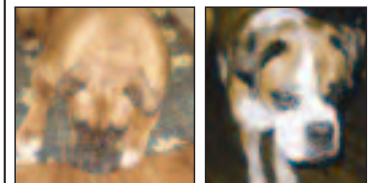
"Other participants will be offered the opportunity to enroll for the term."

The former scholarship winners have been Jemma Birkett (2008), Elliott Ismail (2009) and Verity Campbell and

Jimmy Webster (2010). Jemma, Elliott and Verity have just appeared in the film 'Audition for a Vampire' which will be previewed at film festivals in 2011.

The free masterclass will be held at the Stanwell Hall, Victoria Road next to the Padgett Rooms, Penarth on Saturday January 15 from 2pm – 5pm. Those aged from 10 years old to over-18s are welcome to attend.

For further information, or to have directions emailed to you, please contact Peter Ferris, Ferris Entertainment on 07801 493 133 or via email: [info@ferrisentertainment.com](mailto:info@ferrisentertainment.com).



## The GEM Winter Pet Food Appeal

sponsored by



**More than ever, our local animal shelters are under massive strain to home and feed an ever growing number of pets, that, for one reason or another, are no longer in their own homes.**

**Most pet owners treat their pets as part of the family and will even be including them in the family Christmas presents!**

**If you can help feed a sheltered animal this winter, please bring your pet food donation to The GEM in Cowbridge and we will get it to one of the local shelters.**



**Thank you, from all the animals!**

**BBC National Orchestra of Wales**  
Cardiff Concert Season  
Tymor Cyngwladus Caredydd  
2010/11  
Cerdorfa Genedlaethol Cymreig y BBC  
The National Orchestra of Wales  
Cardiff Concert Season  
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**John Adams**  
Harmonielehre

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**JOHN ADAMS** Harmonielehre  
Conductor / Arweinydd: **Thierry Fischer**  
Piano: **Lars Vogt**

**FRIDAY / GWENER**  
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# IT'S A RAP, AS THREE LOCAL SCHOOLS COLLECT ANTI-BULLYING AWARDS...



Coun Tony Hampton with pupils and teachers from Key Stage 2 winner - St Joseph's Primary School in Penarth.

THREE local schools composed anti-bullying raps that were chosen as the top entries in a Vale Council competition.

The council's primary behaviour improvement team, asked schools to write a rap with music and lyrics, with the winners announced during Anti-bullying Week.

The winner of the Key Stage 1

competition was Dinas Powys Infants' School. The Key Stage 2 winner was St Joseph's Primary School in Penarth, with the School Council at High Street Primary in Barry as runner-up.

Coun Anthony Hampton, cabinet member for education and lifelong learning, and the primary behaviour improvement team presented certificates and cash prizes to the pupils to spend on items for their schools.

Coun Hampton said: "Many congratulations and thanks to all the staff and pupils who worked so hard to raise the profile of anti-bullying within the Vale by entering the competition."

"Tackling bullying is very important and it was inspiring to see such positive ideas."

"The entries were imaginative and thought-provoking and showed some real star quality!"



Coun Hampton with Key Stage 1 winners, Dinas Powys infants.



High Street Primary.

## Barry students of the year are honoured at ceremony



Winning students at Barry were presented with their prizes by the First Minister Carwyn Jones, WJEC chairman, Coun Tony Hampton (left) and WJEC chief execu-

tive, Gareth Pierce. Noel Facey (second from left) from Barry College won the Foundation level Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification prize. Lori Fitchett (fourth

from right) from Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School won the Advanced level Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification prize.

## Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D651.

● £2,000: 111555.  
● The rollover, which now stands at £8,500, was not won this week.

● £10: 875882; 507755; 744211; 602823; 343482; 537919; 589133; 320436; 214833; 249671; 950536; 287167; 556481; 412928; 697771; 411450; 451965; 170958; 343705; 158722; 145676; 286393; 387784; 504032; 819475; 207178; 826950; 540587; 374426.

● £5: 443472; 290898; 337890; 643203; 290543;

778034; 352621; 808421; 511365; 757204; 183337; 876711; 514585; 280362; 405330; 704762; 507755; 602823; 343482; 589133; 320436; 249671; 950536; 556481; 412928; 411450; 451965; 343705; 158722; 286393; 387784; 819475; 207178; 540587; 374426.

358290; 178072; 739030; 764976; 713214; 362374; 307906; 728331; 660014; 593987; 622271; 636292; 324189; 586068; 351760; 236322; 211118; 634591; 661327; 453922; 910762; 616409; 537847; 446849; 5856001; 256966; 971673.

275167; 251741; 596296; 590558; 588708; 440444; 279480; 311181; 572161; 841936; 367793; 250996; 220880; 517013; 586093; 373219; 461009; 247564; 155878; 158233; 563237; 1710210; 175938; 576598; 322154; 971673.

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D652.

● £2,000: 241437.  
● The rollover, which now stands at £9,000, was not won this week.

● £10: 513960; 867361; 761415; 879530; 524918; 604784; 537847; 446849; 5856001; 256966; 971673.

814131; 304560; 372183; 422645; 78961; 649708; 812394; 599824; 583551; 484063; 702912; 331434; 701883; 282431; 719996; 837669; 342050; 440743; 348391; 389034; 618183; 886368; 711223; 211372.

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D652.

814131; 304560; 372183; 422645; 78961; 649708; 812394; 599824; 583551; 484063; 702912; 331434; 701883; 282431; 719996; 837669; 342050; 440743; 348391; 389034; 618183; 886368; 711223; 211372.

**FREE CONFIDENCE COURSE**  
"MOVING ON", the programme that helps people gain skills and confidence for employment, further learning or volunteering is offering a free course on confidence, assertive and communication skills.

It starts on Monday, January 17 (at 9.30am-2.30pm on one day a week for six weeks).

For further information, telephone Sandra/Alyson or Bev on 01446 733034.

## Group look back on 2010, and all that!

PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB NEWS

THE club's year officially starts in September, to match the academic year.

We often have an influx of new members at that time, so the period from September to the start of the New Year is normally used to help new members get acquainted with the basics (see below).

This time last year, Windows 7 had been avoided for just a couple of months.

Chris had looked at it, talked to us about it and we liked it.

Some of us started using it and it hasn't disappointed. The content of our programme was

decided (as always) in response to members' wishes, so we started with a chat from our community police.

January to June gave rise to the introduction of some new (to us) subjects that are becoming more relevant to today's home computer users.

Here it must be emphasized that we make great efforts to present the talks in plain English. Technical terms are not entirely avoidable, but they are kept to a minimum and explained in straightforward terms as we go along.

Topics covered by Chris were the creation of a personal web site; the benefits of a home

network and how to set one up without tears.

He insists that it is all very simple and straightforward and I am sure that it will be eventually! (We come to find out about it all, not for someone to do it all for us, so some effort on our part is right and proper.)

At the very least, we are able to ask our fellow members for further advice.)

We revisited family tree construction that these days involves much computer research.

Ceri introduced us to Microsoft Office 2007 edition and later to Excel 2007 spreadsheets.

We also brought ourselves up to date with the latest thinking on data backup to protect against losing precious information.

A couple of social

evenings reinforced the friendly atmosphere and in July we had a well-attended open evening.

After the summer break, we re-started with an introductory evening and programme topic decisions.

The meetings since then were about staying in control of your computer and a long session about the hints and tips you wish someone had given you when you started computing.

Sometimes one talk naturally produces a demand for another, as when a talk that used a virtual computer gave rise to a talk about the virtual computer itself.

Our AGM will be on January 11 and after the brief formal business, we will be deciding how to respond to the needs of the members in 2011.

HOWARD DESMOND

## BARRIVALE RETAIN CUP!

THE Barrivale Bridge club has not met for three weeks, but on Sunday

January 9 we were invited to take part in the Inter-Club Challenge at Ponyclun.

This is an annual competition between Barrivale, Mid Glamorgan, Pencoed and Vale of Glamorgan bridge clubs.

Barrivale were defending champions and we were delighted to retain the trophy, a very good result, for two of our best players

Mike Best and Mark Roderick were in Dublin playing for Wales.

The players on the day were Tim Barsby, Noelle Bond, Mike Close, Kay and Reg Dyer, Mick Green, Joan Jenkins, Graham Jones, Betty Lewis, Ann and Sean Macdougall and Irene Thomas.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, telephone 01446 733425.

## Valeways winter walks

EASY Walk, promenade and parks: On Monday, January 17 at Cold Knap car park, Barry. For further information, contact Jan on 01446 710991.

Cowbridge Clump, common and boardwalk - extended walk: On Wednesday, January 19 at 10.30am to 1pm. Meet at Cowbridge Town Hall car park. For further information, contact Alan on 01446 773422.

Ye Olde Cadoxton Village: On Sunday, January 23 at 2pm. Meet at Victoria park, Cadoxton near bowling green. For further information, contact Di and Linda on 01446 749000.

Easy walk - outdoor museum and castle gardens: On Tuesday, January 25 at 1.30pm. Meet at entrance to St Fagans Castle and Museum - car park fee payable. For further information, contact Barbara on 07765 432676.



## NEWS FROM THE PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

# From medieval Cowbridge town to the Heritage Trial

Ten walkers, including one from the Caerphilly area, joined Rachel for a walk in the picturesque Vale of Glamorgan on Bank Holiday Monday, to celebrate the New Year.

They began at Cowbridge or Y Bont-Faen (meaning stone bridge) which lies on the site of a Roman settlement and was one of the few medieval walled towns in Wales and the remnants of the walls and towers are still visible.

Built to a medieval plan with one long street, it was divided into burge plots, a burge being a rented property owned by a King or lord, consisting of a house on a long narrow piece of land with the narrow end facing the street.

Leaving Cowbridge cattle market, they progressed under the fly-over and up a rocky slope which led them to an electric fence. Having negotiated that, the group entered fields walking past a wood at Beech Clump and across The Park which is directly in front of Penllyn Castle which sits on a rocky escarpment above the Thaw Valley.

The original castle was probably built by Robert Norris, who was Earl Robert of Gloucester's sheriff in the 12th century, and it is believed to be one of the first Norman keeps in Glamorgan.

The present house, built in the 1770s was remodelled by John Homfray the owner of the Penydarren Ironworks in Merthyr Tydfil, who bought the estate in 1846 and built the chapel which is now the parish church for the area.

Penllyn and is located just inside the castle grounds.

Homfray was also responsible for the beautiful woodland that surrounds the house, which in 1960 was sold to the Cory family.

Having paused to hear a brief history of the area, the group carried on across what used to be the annual Vale of Glamorgan showground and reached the church.

A stop was soon made to enjoy mulled wine from Liz and mince pies from Ann.

Refreshed, the group road-walked towards Vista Farm, spotting a llama in a field of sheep, before turning off down a winding forest track to join the road that led to Graig Penllyn. Having passed the Barley Mow and former chapel spotting gravestones along the wall, they walked through the village.

From the nature reserve below Coed y Graig, they went down a slope near Coed y Stanby woodland to join part of Valeways Millennium Heritage Trail, created as a circular route that meanders for 69-miles through the Vale of Glamorgan, where you can walk through 6,000-years of history and stunning beauty.

Reaching the road, they crossed and went straight up through Graig Wood, where so-called cut logs made it the perfect place to pause and enjoy lunch in comfort, whilst gazing at the surrounding trees, leaves and undergrowth that were all dusted with a layer of fine snow.

Before they got too comfortable, it was time to tramp on to Newforest House Farm and along the lane to re-join Valeways trail that led through a pine wood where they turned south.

Passing an ancient enclosure, they crossed the road and followed a bridle path to reach Trehyngyll, passing the Jane Hodge Resort Hotel, across the dismantled railway line and on to the village of Aberthin, which has no shops but two pubs!

Then, taking a detour from the main road, the group followed field paths past Coed Lawn to reach the traffic lights and make their way back to Cowbridge.

On January 15, meet at 9.30am at the Barry Waterfront for a seven mile moderate walk in the St Fagans and St Brides-super-Ely area; contact Barbara on 01446 734686.

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

## RHOOSE WI held their monthly meeting on January 6 at the village hall.

Members welcomed the return of their president, Ann Harris, who thanked everyone for their good wishes during her recent indisposition.

After receiving welfare reports and the apologies of absentees, the members settled down to listen to a talk given by Jeff Collins, Director of the Red Cross in Wales.

After stressing the need for donors to give money, rather than items of clothing or bedding which are expensive and cumbersome to ship to overseas disaster areas, Mr Collins told his listeners about the role of the Red Cross in Wales itself.

Many had little idea of the amount of involvement in emergency situations, such as the recent bad weather or in social service care. Mr Collins said that the

Red Cross and the WIs must work together to provide help in the community.

The final part of the evening was devoted to dealing with plans for 2011. Members were asked to vote on proposed resolutions.

These included: opposition to 'mega-farms' for dairy cattle; encouragement for the farming of daffodils to provide help for the sufferers of Alzheimer's; opposition to the closure of libraries; the extension of the Admiral nurses network for dementia care; and legislation regarding the use of cycling helmets and mobility scooters.

The final selection of one of these resolutions will take place in May.

Members were reminded that Rhoose will be the host for their local group of WIs. Planned events include a social evening in April, a tea party in July and a carol service in December.

Eileen Eeles won the

month's competition and Ann Harris the raffle.

The next meeting of Rhoose WI will take place at the village

hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose on February 3 at 7.30pm. Visitors welcome.

Planned events: Skittles afternoon at

Rhose Social Club on January 21 at 2pm; Lunch Club at the Star Inn, Dinas Powys on January 28 at 12.30pm JJ

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

### CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

#### Development in Conservation Areas Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2010/01354/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Erection of detached three bedroom dwelling with integral garage
Location/Lleoliad:	Land adjacent Beachcomber, Lakeside, The Knap, Barry
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth	Barry (Marine)

#### Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Adeilad Rhedredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2010/01344/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	New workshop and store to replace the former workshop and stores now collapsed
Location/Lleoliad:	Cwrt yr Ala House, Michaelston le Pit
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhedredig	Affecting Cwrt yr Ala House, Michaelston le Pit, Grade II

#### Development that might affect the setting of a Conservation Area Datblygiad a allai effeithio ar amgylchedd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2010/01331/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	New front boundary wall and paving for driveway. Alterations and extension of garden store and rear boundary wall to form habitable accommodation. The Beeches, Windsor Terrace Lane, Penarth
Location/Lleoliad:	Affecting the Penarth
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth	
Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2010/01341/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Proposed residential development of 14 No. residential units and associated development
Location/Lleoliad:	Land adjacent to the A48, St. Nicholas
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth	Affecting the St. Nicholas

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995 GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

#### Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest Ceisiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2010/01341/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Proposed residential development of 14 No. residential units and associated development
Location/Lleoliad:	Land adjacent to the A48, St. Nicholas
Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2010/01355/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Residential development comprising 1 no. 2 person 1 bed disabled flat and 11 no. 3 person 2 bed flats and relocation of existing access road
Location/Lleoliad:	68-84, Merthyr Street, Barry

#### Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way Ceisiadau a allai effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/ Rhif y cais:	2010/01341/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Proposed residential development of 14 No. residential units and associated development
Location/Lleoliad:	Land adjacent to the A48, St. Nicholas

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at [vog.planning-register.co.uk](http://vog.planning-register.co.uk)

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chudiad y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfydd, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i [vog.planning-register.co.uk](http://vog.planning-register.co.uk).

Dated: 13 January, 2011  
Rob Thomas  
Head of Planning and Transportation  
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,  
Dock Office,  
Barry Docks,  
Barry  
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 13 Ionawr, 2011  
Rob Thomas  
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chudiad  
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,  
Swyddfa'r Doc,  
Yr Ardd,  
Barry  
CF63 4RT

# Vale under-11s just hang on for victory

**THE Vale of Glamorgan under-11s secured their second victory of the season over Newport Schools at the Old Penarthians ground last Saturday morning by 17 - 12, after winning a close encounter earlier in the season.**

The Vale team started extremely well with Rhidian Lewis, Haaris Kahn and Rhys Durlucia combining well to feed Bevan Howell who used his skills to beat the defence from 30 metres out to score the team's first try.

Soon after, Haaris Kahn, Finlay Davies and Jake Griffiths fed the Vale backs once more for Bevan and Joseph Williams to put Harrison Ashby in space on the left wing. Ashby backed his own pace to round the Newport defenders and score near the posts, with Jake Griffiths kicking the conversion.

Newport hit back using their burly centre, who took some stopping every time he had the ball in hand, combining well with his scrum half and front row.

Handling let them down and from the resulting scrum the Vale backs handled well and put Ashby in the clear again to outpace the Newport cover.

Newport put pressure on from the restart and tackled well. A stray pass while trying to break out of defence was intercepted by the Newport centre, who fed

his wing to run well and score near the posts. The try was converted to cut the Vale lead to 17-7.

In the second half, a series of penalties awarded to Newport made the Vale defence work hard, led by Oliver Rowbottom, Jack Roberts and Rhodri Hopkins.

They had to be alert to the quick thinking Newport scrum half who had come to life in the second half.

Again, the Vale were penalised for Newport to go wide and feed their right wing to score in the corner, while the Vale were left bemused at what they had done wrong (Vale 17-12).

For the remainder of the match Newport pressed hard but the Vale

defence was up to the task, showing superb spirit in defence.

Both captains gave thanks to the opposing team, coaches, parents, caterers, Old Penarthians for hosting the match and to the referee, Mr. Steve Union.

Vale squad: Jake Griffiths, Finlay Davies, Jack Lee, Cameron Roy, Oliver Rowbottom, Sam Corkhill, Haaris Kahn, Jack Roberts, Rhys Durlucia (captain), Ioan Williams, Rhys Bradshaw, Harrison Ashby, Bevan Howell, Rhidian Lewis, Rhys Jones, Rhodri Hopkins, Joseph Williams, Ben Jones, Jack Little, Ioan Lewis. DW

## Jobseekers claim prize - and a job!

**LUCKY jobseekers Michael Mark and Jane Huxter scooped a prize and a job - thanks to BTCV.**

The social enterprise group held a prize draw giveaway for jobseekers getting back into the local labour market.

All BTCV customers who started work in November were automatically entered for a chance to win a bike, a mobile phone or a digital camera.

A spokeswoman said: "Jobseekers are referred to BTCV once they have been claiming Jobseekers Allowance for 12 months or more. This could be for many reasons, one being barriers to work that need breaking down."

"BTCV assists with overcoming these barriers by helping jobseekers to engage with employers to offer 'Trials of Work', financial assistance, re-training and development, and by offering an EIn-Work Support, to ensure jobseekers manage to remain in work."

Coun Christopher Elmore of Barry attended the prizegiving to present Michael and Jane with their prizes.

## SWEET LINFORD LOVES TO RUN!

The GEM is in partnership with the Dogs Trust to find homes for animals at the Bridgend rehoming centre (telephone 01656 724593).

This week, a spokeswoman focuses on Linford a three-year-old Lurcher, who, as the name suggests, loves to run!

"He is a very sweet, loving boy, and would love to live with another dog. He would like a quiet home, with someone who will be at home with him, play fun games with him, and take him for regular off-leash exercise."

"He is house-trained, and gets on well with



LINFORD

other dogs. If you think you can offer Linford the home he is looking for, please call 01656 725219, or visit us at Dogs Trust, Court Colman, Pen-y-fai, Bridgend".

You can see Linford and some of his friends at [www.dogstrust.org.uk](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk)



## NEWS ROUND-UP FROM THE BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

# Carol concerts and Broadway musicals



**BARRY** Comprehensive School's annual carol concert moved to a new venue this year, the United Reformed Church on Windsor Road.

The large congregation enjoyed a percussion ensemble, solo performances, readings, a lower school choir, a full school choir, brass ensemble and congregational carols.

Earlier in the week, pupils and staff were given a warm welcome at Barry Hospital, when they visited to sing and play for the patients.

The school thanks everyone who made these two festive performances possible.

### MUSICAL TALE OF SHARKS AND JETS

**BARRY** Comprehensive School's faculty of performing arts proudly presented its own version of *West Side Story* last month.

The *Sharks* and the *Jets* were updated to give their characters and setting a more contemporary feel but the lyrics, music, and dialogue came straight from Sondheim, Bernstein and Laurents.

This mammoth production of one of the world's most popular musicals followed last year's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and the previous year's *Les Misérables*.

Headteacher David Swallow commended the hard work of all involved, saying: "The cast have worked with enthusiasm, commitment and determination over many weeks and the standard they have reached is a tribute to their efforts, and the support of staff and parents."

Feedback from the audience over the four-night run was entirely positive with many kind comments about the professionalism of the cast, crew and orchestra and the amazing talent on display.

The school choir singing 'Winter Wonderland' at the carol service.



Miss Wilson and Scott at Barry Hospital.



Tom Kinch and Bradley Miller as Tony and Riff.



'When you're a Jet you're a Jet all the way.... (Bradley Miller in *West Side Story*).

## Pupils play Santa for a day!

**FOUR** volunteer Santas from Barry Comprehensive delivered sacks of Christmas presents to the children's unit at the University of Wales Hospital.

Pupils, parents and staff from the school contributed a record number of gift-wrapped presents that were distributed to the children at the Space Ward by year-7 pupils Lewis, Michael, Ieuan and Michael.

The school has been a long-standing supporter of LATCH, delivering presents to the oncology clinic at Llandough Hospital for many years, and is continuing the tradition at the Children's Hospital.

Many thanks to all the pupils, parents and staff who contributed and to the staff, patients and their families who made us feel so welcome at the hospital.



Volunteer Santas Lewis, Michael, Ieuan and Michael with some of the gifts contributed by pupils, parents and staff

## Barry students take chance to question election hopeful



Angela Jones-Evans, the Welsh Conservative's Assembly candidate for the Vale, with year-12 and 13 politics students.

**JUST** before Christmas, prospective AM for the Vale, Angela Jones-Evans, visited Barry Comprehensive to discuss educational issues with Mr Swallow and speak to the year-12 and 13 politics students.

Mrs Jones-Evans is the

Conservative candidate for the seat and the students were interested to hear of how she became involved in politics and her experiences of campaigning so far.

Students also had the opportunity to ask a variety of questions, some of which centred on the use of all-woman shortlists and the current coalition government's plans for education funding, particularly, tuition fees.

Mrs Jones-Evans also shared her hopes for the Vale and students offered their opinions on issues affecting them and their communities.

The students gained a real insight into devolved politics through this visit and appreciated the opportunity to share their opinions directly with a prospective assembly member.

## 'Happy 100th birthday, Ted!'



Mr Ted Wood looking at his birthday card with year-7 pupil Jordan Gwilliam.

**EVERYONE** at Barry Comprehensive School sent their best wishes to former teacher Mr Ted Wood on his 100th birthday.

Mr Wood, who taught handicrafts at the school and retired as head of department in the early 1970s, was in fine spirits when year-7 pupil Jordan Gwilliam called to present him with a birthday card on behalf of pupils and staff.

## Pumas in control after goals flurry in second-half...

**BARRY** PUMAS returned to league action this week after last Sunday's 1-0 win over Acme Revolution in the Lazarou Challenge Cup.

Cardiffflona were the visitors, a team that Pumas beat 4-0 earlier in the season.

The first half saw the Barry team with most of the possession and they came close to scoring twice early on with two long-range efforts from left back Stephens, forcing saves from the Cardiff goalkeeper.

The deadlock was broken when Pumas striker Jamie Randall was tripped inside the

area when trying to round the keeper. Ben Weekley stepped up to convert the penalty.

Pumas came out stronger in the second half and this time made their shots count, with Randall scoring his first hat-trick of the season.

Half-time substitute Chris Davey also added a goal and the Cardiff side scored a consolation in the dying minutes of the game.

Barry Pumas remain top of division three.

**FINAL SCORE:**  
Barry Pumas 5  
Cardiffflona 1.

MS



# Who wants to build what and where in the Vale?

Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd – 39 Park Crescent, Barry – change of use to use Class A1.

Ms Julie Beynon – Llyswen, Windmill Lane, Llanblethian – ground and first floor extension to an existing dwelling.

Mr Jamie Brown – 2-10 Holton Road, Barry – change of use to mixed use D1 and B1 uses to accommodate drug intervention programme.

Mr Gethin Lloyd – 11 Trepit Road, Wick –

single storey rear extension, garage and ramped access.

Mr and Mrs Aled and Lowri Phillips – 174 Westbourne Road, Penarth – extension and alteration to the rear ground and first floor, including the demolition of an existing garage, replaced by a carport incorporating recycling, and the replacement and addition of new fence and wall to boundaries, and the replacement of the front entrance porch.

Mr Julie Prosser – The

Swallows, Red Farm, Llangan – retention of metal fluepipe and sky dish erected on the barn roof.

Dunraven Estates Company – Sealands Farm, St Brides Major – the erection of a new 24.0 long x 30.50m wide x 8.20m to ridge clear span steel portal frame multi-purpose farm building Barn B.

Mr Ray Close – 45 Oxford Street, Barry – single storey kitchen extension to rear of property.

NNB Generation Company Limited – Hinkley Point C, Hinkley Point, Somerset – site clearance (including fencing, vegetation removal, demolition of existing structures and creation of alternative foot-paths); earthworks (including soil stripping and storage, site levelling, spoil screening/storage for re-use on site); provision of earth retaining structures; deep excavations; provision and relocation of drainage infrastructure (including culverts, outfalls, balancing ponds); the provision and operation of plant and machinery (including concrete batching); site establishment works (including lay-over facilities, car parks, haulage roads, site access points and

roundabouts, and laying replacement and/or diversion of apparatus); and other associated works, in the event that Hinkley Point C is not consented all structures would be removed and the site reinstated.

Welsh Window Systems – 2 Vere Street, Barry – proposed rebuilding and extending of existing store to rear.

Mrs Kath Bevan – 75 Broad Street, Barry – conversion of four bedroom dwelling into two flats.

Mr T Merrill – 17 Whitcliffe Drive, Penarth – extension and alterations to existing detached garage to create home office.

Fitz Project Management – Forrest Café, Porthkerry Country Park, Barry – erection of ground cover timber decking with access ramps, steps and baluster rails.

Dunraven Estates Company – Sealands Farm, St Brides Major – the erection of a new 24.0 long x 30.50m wide x 8.20m to ridge clear span steel portal frame multi-purpose farm building Barn A.

Mr and Mrs Gary and Sheena Jones – 24a Forrest Road, Penarth – proposed conversion of existing garage to habitable room.

Benton Agricultural Limited – former

Council Yard Site, Gluepot Lane, nr Llandow – use of existing agricultural building for agricultural engineering services to tractors and farm machinery.

Mr Peter Dixon – Fairfield, Cowbridge Road, Llantwit Major – two storey extension to side of property and conservatory extension to the rear.

Mr Dave Ellis – 4 Leoline Close, Cowbridge – proposed kitchen extension, and provision of dormer window to first floor bedroom.

Mr Mark Aston – Duffryn Lloft, Tredoderidge – erection of detached garage.

Mr Jenkins – Cwm Hedd, Blackton Farm, Penmark – tiled roof conservatory to rear elevation.

Mr Gareth Vaughan – 39 Boverton Brook, Boverton, Llantwit Major – two storey and single storey extensions to the side and rear of the property.

Mr David Chandler – 78 Queen's Road, Penarth – conversion of existing ground floor and basement office with self-contained flat above into a single dwelling house with change of use from office to residential, plus extension at rear second floor.

Mr David Chandler – 78 Queen's Road, Penarth – conversion of existing ground floor and basement office with self-contained flat above into a single dwelling house with change of use from office to residential, plus extension at rear second floor.

Tesco Stores Limited – former Mayflower Public House, Fontygary Road, Rhose – retrospective application for the installation of car park lighting bollards.

Mr Stephen Bray – The Beeches, Windsor Terrace Lane, Penarth – New front boundary wall and paving for driveway. Alterations and extension of garden store and rear boundary wall to form habitable accommodation.

Mr D J Jennings – Bryn Hyfryd, Wick Road, Ewenny – Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and dormer window.

Mr Alistair Wilson – 5 Edith Road, Dinas Powys – Retention of extension of garage to rear of property.

Mr and Mrs H Evans – Cross Farm Bungalow, Llysorweny – Alterations and first floor extension to existing dwelling.

Mr Anthony Meakins – 3 Clos Yr Onnen, Llantwit Major – Single storey side extension for garage and utility room.

Ty Hafan – Hayes Road, Sully – New care services facility, car parking and associated works.

Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd – 39-40 Park Crescent, Barry – Erection of

various advertisements in connection with Sainsbury's local convenience store.

Mrs Helen Jennings – Llanilltud Fawr Primary School, Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major – Installation of a seven-metre flag pole to display eco flag.

Mr C Kent – New plot between corner house and No.1 Cory Crescent, Wyndham Park Estate, Peterston super Ely – New dwelling.

Mr and Mrs H and B Jones – Old School House, Cardiff Road, Cowbridge – New three-bedroom house in part of existing curtilage of Old School House.

Newydd Housing Association – Land adjacent to the A48, St Nicholas – Proposed residential development of 14 no. residential units and associated development.

HSBC Bank Plc – 61 High Street, Cowbridge – Installation of a new external DDA compliant ramp into existing banking hall.

Mr Peter Vidler – Cwrt yr Ala House, Michaelston le Pit – New workshop and store to replace the former workshop and stores now collapsed.

Mr C Roach – Tregwyn Barn, Wick – Change of use from field adjoining property to allow minimal increase of curtilage to provide car parking space for one vehicle for users of barn when used as holiday accommodation.

Mr Max Brown – 24A Wick Road, Ewenny – Proposed dwelling and extensions adjoining 24A, Wick Road, Ewenny (converting 24A into 2 no. dwellings).

Marine Management Organisation – Hinkley Point C, Hinkley Point, Somerset – Temporary jetty.

Mr and Mrs Lionel Davies – Croft House, Trerhyngyll, Cowbridge – Lawful development certificate for the change of use of land to residential land.

Mr Viv Sweet – 107 Redlands Road, Penarth – Erection of white PVCU conservatory.

Mr Robert Warlow – Oakleigh, 4 Chapel Row, Eastbrook – Proposed 'granny annexe' extension, internal alterations and upgrading of roofspace to form office and play-room.

Mr Darren Young – 27 Chandlers Way, Penarth – Two storey side extension.

Mr Darren Young – 27 Chandlers Way, Penarth – Two storey side extension.

Mr Darren Young – 27 Chandlers Way, Penarth – Two storey side extension.

## A good double for Vale's Evan

LLANCARFAN'S Evan Williams had plenty to smile about at rainy Taunton on Monday, January 10.

He came away with a double after his nine-year-old *Chrysander* had landed the Happy New Year Claiming Hurdle and his seven-year-old *Seren Cwmtudu* the EBF Mares Novices Hurdle.

Both were ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney who is having a cracking season.

The former, a 13-2 chance, scored by three lengths from the American-bred *Cockatoo* and the latter, a 5-1 shot, got home by a length from the Paul Nicholls trained *Violin Davis*.

Williams said of *Seren Cwmtudu*: "That was a very tough effort and she's improving – she ran better than the form suggests last time at Ffos Las. I suppose it wouldn't be a surprise to see her in the mares' final at Newbury."

At Towcester, Aberthin's Tim Vaughan saddled six-year-old *Botman* to win the Ladbrookes Novices Hurdle. Ridden by the legendary Tony McCoy, *Botman*, a 7-2 chance, won by six lengths from Philip Hobbs' *Redbridge*.

BRIAN LEE

174 Holton Road  
Barry  
Vale of Glamorgan  
CF63 4HN

## GROVE ESTATES



ANGLE CLOSE, BARRY

- Well presented 2 bedroom end link property
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Conservatory
- Good sized gardens to front & rear
- Stunning views over countryside
- Viewing highly recommended

£120,000



BERKROLLES AVENUE, ST ATHAN

- 3 bedroom semi detached
- 3 reception rooms
- Good size grounds
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Offered freehold with vacant possession & no chain

£119,950



BRYN AWEL, BUTTRILLS ROAD

- 4 bedroom detached property in popular location
- Gas central heating & Double glazed
- 3 reception rooms
- Garage, driveway & spacious well maintained gardens
- Viewing highly recommended

£244,950



ST MARY'S AVENUE, BARRY

- 3 bedroom bay fronted mid terrace in central location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Ideal investment/first time purchase
- Offered with vacant possession & no chain

£99,950



MAES Y CWM STREET, BARRY

- 3 bedroom bay fronted mid terrace in central location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Very well presented throughout
- Viewing highly recommended
- Offered with vacant possession & no chain
- Offers in excess of

£130,000



PHILADELPHIA CLOSE, BARRY

- 3 bedroom semi detached in quiet cul de sac location
- Gas central heating
- Timber glazing
- Good sized gardens
- Off road parking

£124,950



O'RELLANA HOUSE, BARRY

- 2 bedroom second floor apartment in popular location
- Central heating & double glazed
- En suite to master bedroom
- Undercroft parking
- Priced for quick sale
- Vacant possession with no chain

£119,950



BOROUGH AVENUE, BARRY

- Well presented 5 bedroom semi-detached property
- Driveway to front for approx 2-3 cars
- Two reception rooms
- Double glazed & gas central heating
- Enclosed rear garden
- Offered freehold with no chain

£179,950



BARRY ROAD, BARRY

- 3 bedroom end terrace in popular location
- Gas central heating & Double glazed
- 2 reception rooms
- Exceptionally large accommodation
- Offered with vacant possession and no chain

£109,950



PORT ROAD EAST, BARRY

- 3 bedroom semi detached in sought after location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Additional loft room
- Detached garage, workshop/utility room & driveway
- Backing directly onto countryside with panoramic rural views
- Viewing highly recommended

£219,995



JENNER STREET, BARRY

- 3 bedroom mid terrace in popular location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Newly decorated throughout
- Offered freehold, with vacant possession & no chain
- Ideal investment or first time buy
- Offers invited

£89,950



CHURCH ROAD, BARRY

- 3 bedroom mid terrace in popular location
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Offered freehold with vacant possession & no chain

£94,950



ST PAUL'S AVENUE, BARRY

- 2 bedroom ground floor flat in West End location
- Gas central heating
- Partial double glazing
- Communal rear garden shared with 1 other flat
- Would suit investor or first time buyer
- Offered with vacant possession & no chain

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WESTON COURT, BARRY

- 1 bedroom first floor flat in popular location
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Tiling • Alterations • Decking

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VERTICALS

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Made in Wales.....Proud to be Welsh

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One offer per Household - Selected Ranges 80" X 80" Maximum

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**The GEM**



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I received lots of initial enquiries from Llantwit Major and Barry which converted into 6 jobs within the first 2 days of The GEM being printed and I was still receiving calls up to a week later! Thank you again for your assistance and advice which is invaluable for a new business.  
LOUISE LEWIS  
Tel. 07964 179 473

### TESTIMONIAL



Advertising with The GEM has proved to be most successful in the promotion of my business.  
Thank You,  
Spot On!  
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BW Construction.  
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## Double Glazing

## Driving Tuition

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## Computer Services

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- No fix, no fee
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VAT frozen for January**

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Free Vertical Blinds with all full house windows and doors fitted before February

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• 6 Windows fitted from £1995  
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**FREE QUOTATIONS**  
All conservatories fitted before February come with FREE tiling and underfloor heating.  
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**UPVC WINDOWS & DOORS - Established 1994 (2009/2010 Award Winners)**  
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All makes including  
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All Work Guaranteed. Fully Insured.  
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Specialists in  
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The garage door specialists

All types of doors  
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## Roofing specialists

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We cover all aspects of roofing  
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New slate/ tile/flat roofs.  
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City & Guilds  
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## Property

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Luton van with tail lift  
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Keeping Wales on the move

**LOST**  
Coychurch/Cowbridge  
**Thin Gold  
Bangle**  
with hinge and 2 small  
clear stones  
**Tel 01446 772602**

For 4 weeks advertising  
delivered to more  
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**HOW?**

Simply call **01446 774484** today  
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(This offer is open to private advertisers only)

**Deadline for Motor Cars  
is 12 noon on Tuesday**



# GEM Family Notices

## Family Notices

### FERRER Vyvyan John

Peacefully on December 26th at his home in Barry after a long illness, Vyv aged 82 years (Retired Physics Teacher, Barry Comprehensive).

Beloved husband of Valerie, a loving father, father in law, grandfather and great grandfather.

Resting at the private funeral home of W. Spickett & Son, 181 Court Road, Barry until the funeral on Tuesday January 18th. Service and committal at 3.45 p.m. in the chapel at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend (where friends please meet).

Family flowers only, donations if desired may be sent to Cancer Research (Wales) Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff CF14 2TL.

### JOAN LESLEY JONES (Les)

Very suddenly on January 4th at home Lesley passed away, she was a lovely mother to Linda and Paul, and a proud grandmother to Sophie, Jenny, William, Oliver, Celyn and Charlie. She will be sadly missed and always loved. Funeral at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend on Friday 21st January at 1.15pm.

### WALLIS

#### Peter Ransome D'Arcy

Peacefully on 3 January 2011, aged 87. Much loved and missed. Mass at Our Lady & St Iltyd Church, Llantwit Major 19 January 10.30am, then burial at Bodmin New Cemetery 20 January, 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations please to British Heart Foundation. All enquiries to W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major.

### DANIELS Beverley

Sons Mike and Jeff and mother Moira wish to thank family, friends, neighbours and work colleagues for attending Beverley's funeral and for the many messages of sympathy that we have received. Special thanks to the district nurses for the wonderful care that they provided. Also to Linda, Delyth and Rhian for their loving words spoken at the service. All donations made to the Velindre Trust were greatly appreciated.

### JANET LEGG

The Mayor, Cllr Len Taylor, expresses his thanks for the messages of sympathy he has received following the death of the Mayoress, Mrs Janet Legg (The GEM, January 6, 2011). On behalf of Janet's daughter Claire, son Russell and all the family, he also sends thanks for the many condolences they received, for the support at the funeral service celebrating Janet's life, and for the donations to Leukaemia Research.

### JENKINS Glady's

Widow of Bill, formerly of Pontalun Close, Barry. Passed away peacefully on January 7, aged 104. Will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Funeral at Croesycellio Crematorium, Cwmbran, January 25 at 3.45pm. Family flowers.

### FARMAN

Thomas K  
31/07/25 - 14/01/09

*My Life goes on without you  
But nothing is the same  
I have to hide my heartache  
When someone speaks your name*  
Your Dearly Loving Wife, Gwyneth

## Thank You

### A heartfelt Davies thank you...

Julian, Della, Simon and Tom Davies would like to say a very big 'thank you' to Mo, Miz and the team at The Raj Kinara, Rhosce, for making their 25th wedding anniversary such a special evening.

*As always, the service and the food were exquisite and your efforts were very much appreciated.*

### GRAY

After a short illness, Paul of Llantwit Major. Dearly loved husband of the late Lorna, and loving father to Anne. He will be sadly missed by family and friends alike. Funeral service on Friday, 28th January, 2011 in St Cadocs Church, Llanfarcraig at 10.15am followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 11.30am.

Family flowers only, but donations may be made to the Royal British Legion (cheques only) c/o the Funeral Director, W. A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major.

## Congratulations

### Congratulations

#### RATTANA SNOWDEN



on receiving your Diploma Award from Jane Hutt at Barry College.

Well done.

Andrew & Boys,  
Mum & Dad

xxx

## Anniversaries

### Jan & Roger IRVING

Happy 25th  
Wedding Anniversary  
January 11th



Wishing you another happy  
25 years and more - from all  
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## Birthdays

### CLARE GORE

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## LLANTWIT MAJOR WI

## Branch catches up on the news

THE first meeting of 2011 was a happy occasion when members were able to meet after the long break to catch up with all the news.

President Eira opened the meeting by wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2011. She apologised for cancelling the December meeting because of the ice and snow; it would have been irresponsible to put members at risk of falling.

Because the meeting was to be followed by a '12th night party', the correspondence and courses were quickly mentioned and put out to be read by interested members.

There was a discussion of the resolutions to be sent in for the 2011 NFWM AGM. It was a difficult choice to make, but

most votes were given to urge the Government to support funding of research and development of natural galantamine for the treatment of Alzheimer's type dementia.

The overall winner of the 2010 monthly competition was Alma Sterritt and the overall winner of the 'bloom of the month' competition was Julia Jenkin.

The party followed with a light-hearted quiz and bingo, while the party food was being prepared. May Davies thanked the committee for all their hard work and the tasty food.

The next meeting will be on February 3 with a talk on the Tiller Girls by Pat Stewart. The competition will be a decorated fan and the stall, unwanted jewellery. New members will be warmly welcomed.

## Minister opens dementia clinic

Health Minister Edwina Hart AM on Monday officially opened a new mental health unit at Glanrhyd Hospital, Bridgend.

An Assembly spokesman explained that Angelon Clinic is one element of the plan to modernise mental health services in Bridgend, providing 42 beds for older people with dementia on the Glanrhyd Hospital site.

It has been designed to provide greater privacy and dignity for patients and their families.

Accommodation includes private bedrooms with en-suite facilities, shared spaces (living room, TV lounge, dining room) and therapeutic areas.

The clinic will replace out-dated inpatient

accommodation at Glanrhyd and Maesgwyn Hospitals. Patients will transfer to the modern, purpose-built inpatient facilities.

Mrs Hart said: "The challenge dementia poses in Wales is significant but a considerable amount of work is under way to improve dementia services. This centre is an example of the commitment shown by the NHS in Wales to deliver real change to those diagnosed with dementia and their carers."

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## Public Notices

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL  
LEGAL, PUBLIC PROTECTION  
& HOUSING SERVICES

MARRIAGE ACT 1994 AND  
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

Take notice that the above department has received the following application under the above Act from Sir Brooke Boothby for Fomon Castle, Fomon, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 32N to be a premises approved as a venue for Marriage and Civil Partnership Ceremonies.

This application and associated plans are available for public inspection between 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.

Any person wishing to object to the grant of this approval should write to the above address giving reasons for their objection within 21 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Peter H Evans  
Director of Legal, Public Protection  
& Housing Services



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWIG  
GWASANAETHAU CYFREITHIOL  
AMDDIFFYFYN Y CYHOEDD A THAI

DEDDF PRIDODS 1994 A DEDDF  
PARTNERIAETH SIFIL 2004

Hysbysir drwy hyn fod yr adran a enwir uchod wedi derbyn cais o dan y Ddeddf uchod gan Syr Brooke Boothby ar gyfer Castell Ffôn-y-mwn, Y Barri, Bro Morgannwg CF62 32N i fod yn safle cymeradwyr ar gyfer cynnal Seremonïau Pridods a Partneriaeth Sifil.

Gall aelodau'r cyhoedd weld manylion y cais a'r cynlluniau cyfreithiol rhwng 9.00am. - 4.00pm. dydd Llun i dydd Gwener yn y Stryddlydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, Y Barri CF63 4RU.

Os ydych chi'n dymuno gwrthwynebu'r cais hwn, dylech arfon gwrthwynebu'r ychydig yn cynnwys rhesymau i'r cyfeiriad uchod cyn pen 21 diwrnod ar ôl cyhoeddi'r hysbysiad hwn.

Peter H Evans  
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol,  
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Action from the under-14s game

**THIS week saw Cowbridge under-14s visiting Pencoed, which was a first for this group of players.**

For the first five minutes Pencoed dominated possession with Cowbridge struggling to get their hands on the ball. However, good work on the floor from Jac Roberts, Sam Corkill and Cameron Roy saw the Cowbridge back line able to test their opponents.

After a series of drives from Dan Taylor, Ellis Simon and Morgan Gore the ball was fed to Rhys Bradshaw, who opened the Cowbridge account, with a conversion from Jake Griffiths adding the extras.

Bevan Howells stormed over for a try, once again converted, and Cowbridge were now in the ascendancy.

Cowbridge were camped in the Pencoed half and Bevan Howells added the third score, converted by Evan Williams.

It was all change for

the second half, however, and Pencoed would dominate this period of play. Despite stout defence from Dan Marshall, Tom Jose, Angus James, William Davies, Oliver Reynolds and Dylan Cottle, Pencoed recorded two unanswered tries to narrow the scoreboard.

Once again the line up was shuffled for the final third and Cowbridge would proceed to dominate the action. They had the upper hand from front, allowing their talented back line the space to test their opposite numbers.

As Cowbridge forced play close to the Pencoed line, Ioan Lewis darted over for the next score, converted by Jake Griffiths.

Bevan Howells attacked the blind side and added the next score, converted by Morgan Gore. Once again Cowbridge applied the pressure and Jake Griffiths pounced to add the final try of the match, converted by Evan Williams.

Final score - Pencoed 21 Cowbridge 42.

## COWBRIDGE MINI AND JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

# Cowbridge under-14s earn win over Pencoed

Many thanks to all the players, parents and coaches from Pencoed, for their part in an excellent morning of rugby.

**Squad:** Angus James, Bevan Howells, Cameron Roy, Daniel Marshall, Daniel Taylor, Dylan Cottle, Ellis Simon, Evan Williams, Ioan Lewis, Jac Roberts, Jake Griffiths, James Guard, Morgan Gore, Oliver Reynolds, Rhys Bradshaw, Rhys Davies, Sam Corkill, Tom Coates, Tom Jose, William Davies.

**Under 12s - Rumney (home)**

**Cowbridge entertained long standing rivals Rumney and after a hard fought and enjoyable game pulled off a well deserved win scoring three tries to their opponents nil.**

Both teams settled in quickly but the heavier Rumney pack began to provide good possession for their backs. Stout defence by the home side prevented the visitors from establishing an advantage and brave tackling from Matthew

Keating, Charlie Martin and Sean Davies helped Cowbridge to weather the storm.

They opened the scoring when Harry Hopkins forced his way over the line and Cai Evans converted. For the remainder of the half the territorial battle swayed back and forth but there was no further scoring.

The second half began in a similar vein to the first, with the Rumney forwards driving hard into the opposing half but quick turn overs by the Cowbridge forwards allowed their backs to create a number of breaks.

Toff Patel, James Holder and Michael Thomas forced their way close to the Rumney line but the visitors hung on.

Cowbridge finally scored the second try that had eluded them for so long when scrum half Osian John released the ball to centre Rhys Beynon, who scored in the corner.

Cowbridge's third try soon followed and was probably their best of the

season so far. A thirty metre run by Dan Bunney led to a ruck on the left hand side of the field. The ball then travelled through seven pairs of hands before wing Harrison Stevens crossed in the right hand corner to make the game safe.

Cowbridge made a number of changes, including newcomer Will Cousins, who acquitted himself well. The game ended with Cowbridge dominating all aspects of play and well deserving of their 17 points to nil victory.

Outstanding in their pack were Duncan Ace, Ben Terry and James Waters whilst Cai Evans controlled the game well from outside half.

**Under 13s - Rumney (home)**

**Cowbridge under-13s put in a spirited performance against Rumney RFC.**

Rumney scored a converted try to take an early lead; however, the Cowbridge pack started to crank up the pressure, enabling the backs to show their attacking

prowess, ably led by captain Matt Harper. The Cowbridge pack was really taking command and Tom Evans and George Thomas led by example throughout the whole game.

Cowbridge's flying wingers Tom Trotman (three tries) and Nathan Robson put points on the board with the ball being passed beautifully through the backs to create the opportunities.

Rumney hit back with a last minute try that was thoroughly deserved and reflected their spirit throughout the whole game.

**Squad:** Cai Thomas Jenkins, Owain Thomas Jenkins, Josh Brace, George Thomas, Tom Evans, Jac Davies, Luke John, Frazz McGann, Nathan Robson, Ashford Thomas, Gabe Newham, Matt Harper, Hywel Williams, Tom Trotman, Rian Thomas, Liam Sloane, Aled Evans, Tom Whitehouse, Olly Brown, Jonny Harvey.

ML

## Stacey enjoys boxing success



**L L A N T W I T MAJOR ABC travelled to the Elthorne Sports Centre, Hanswell, London W7 on Saturday, January 8.**

Stacey Dixon, the daughter of coach and matchmaker Mickey Dixon, boxed Andriana Blunstone of Hanwell School.

The first round saw the Llantwit Major Comprehensive fifth form girl use her reach advantage to good effect.

In the second Stacey did much the same but more accurate with her blows that caught the eye of the judges at ringside.

The Hanwell boxer realised that she was behind on points going

into the third and final round, and started off at a fast pace. Stacey did well to keep her at bay scoring well with both hands.

At the end of the of the contest Stacey caught Andriana with a hard right to the head, and as the referee was just about to administer a mandatory standing count, the final bell sounded.

The referee congratulated both young ladies on a good contest but Stacey was declared the winner by a clear points decision.

If you are interested in boxing and would like more information about our club contact Tony Meakin 01446796784 or Mikey Dixon on 07970394966.

TM

## Vale trainer's Wincanton winner

**LLANCARFAN'S** Evan Williams landed the opener (novices' hurdle handicap division one) at Wincanton on Saturday with his six-year-old bay gelding **Buck Mulligan** who, ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney, came home eight lengths clear of the Paul Nicholls trained Round Tom.

**Buck Mulligan**, an 8-1 chance, was running for the first time in 265 days.

BL

**TOM HARVEY has acknowledged that he still has plenty to learn as he graduates to a higher level and prepares to make his debut on the European stage in 2011.**

He will nonetheless be 'pushing absolutely to the limit' in a quest to 'do some spectacular things' over the course of the year ahead.

Tom has already proven himself as one of the country's most promising young talents by storming to the British crown in the Comer Cadet class of the Super 1 Series in 2010 - as well as securing an excellent third place in the title standings of fellow national championship Formula Kart Stars (FKS). But as he now takes the step-up to KF3 as one of the very youngest drivers in the

field, the highly-rated young South Wales speed demon recognises that he has a real challenge on his hands.

With more than half as much power again at his disposal to what he has been used to before, the 13-year-old is palpably his new TonyKart mount, whose speed he describes as 'just amazing'.

Although his testing schedule hit a bit of a setback before Christmas due to illness, he has rapidly been playing catch-up, and at PF International he lapped a scant 15 hundredths of a second shy of the benchmark - and quicker than some far more experienced campaigners.

That kind of form is tremendously encouraging as Tom looks to build upon his early progress and really come out-of-the-blocks fighting at the start of the season, when the serious stuff begins.

With Williams Motorsport, the Bonvillston-based hotshot is confident he could be in no better place as he embarks upon his learning curve.

Not only does the team's reputation precede it, but having engineered Newport ace Jordan Chamberlain to European and British Championship glory in 2009, and the runner-up laurels in the World Championship in 2010, Williams clearly has a history of getting results with Welsh drivers. As omens go, there could be far worse.

"It's a team that is well-known for bringing drivers on and has an

excellent record of success," Tom, a Cowbridge Comprehensive pupil, enthused.

"We've been working together for a couple of months now preparing for the season ahead, and we get on really well."

"The kart actually doesn't feel that different to a Cadet - it's mainly the increase in speed in KF3, and particularly the middle-end power of the engine that really pulls you through corners and you've just got to hang on! That really hurts your neck muscles, and you need to keep your arms locked, too - if you hit a bump, you've got to stay straight to keep the kart pointing in the right direction."

"My physical strength is one aspect that I know I need to work on before the season starts. At the moment I can do 20 or 25 laps non-stop, but it will be tough in the heat of a summer's day... It will take a bit more testing to build my stamina up to where it needs to be. I'm not ready yet - I can do the lap times, but in a race situation I would be lagging towards the end - but I will be ready."

"There's another KF3 driver in the team with a year's experience in the class already, so I need to work hard to catch up and get onto his pace and then beat him. I want to be the number one inside the team, like every driver does. I want to be pushing absolutely to the limit, doing some spectacular things and really getting my name out there."

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# CADOXTON TAE KWON DO's 'GRAND CHAMPIONS' GLUT

THE Cadoxton schools of Tae Kwon Do attended the final grand prix tournament in a series of six hosted by Mal Johns of WOMAA.

Points are awarded to the first four places in all categories entered, resulting in a series grand champion at the end of the year.

The first category was the pattern sections. Thomas Haysham and Lucy Newman got the club off to a good start by taking second and third places.

Once the pattern categories were completed, the sparring categories began, with the Cadoxton school being represented in most categories.

On the day, successful in their respective categories were: **Matthew Bennett**, second in point and third in continuous sparring; **Liam Rees**, first in continuous and second in point sparring; **Bradley Halford**, first in point sparring; **Jamie Halford**, first in continuous and third in point sparring; **Morganne Gomez Jones**, first in both the point and continuous sparring; **Dominic Todd**, first in point and second in continuous sparring; **Ollie Tipples**, first in point and second in continuous



PICTURED: Matthew Bennett, Morganne Gomez Jones, Dominic Todd, Jamie Halford, Liam Rees, Bradley Halford, Charlotte Sullivan, Lucy Newman, Ollie Tipples. Missing from the photograph are Hayley Matthey, Morgan Harry and Thomas Haysham.

ous sparring; **Charlotte Sullivan**, third in point sparring; **Lucy Newman**, second in point, second in continuous sparring and second in the pattern sections; **Morgan Harry**, second in continuous sparring; **Hayley Matthey**, third in point sparring; **Thomas Haysham**, first in point and first in continuous sparring, second in patterns.

At the end, the points were added up from the previous six tournaments with the Cadoxton School finishing top overall with 15 grand champions and

nine runner up positions. 2010 WOMAA Grand champions are as follows:

**Matthew Bennett**, grand champion in points and continuous sparring; **Jamie Halford**, grand champion in points and continuous sparring; **Dominic Todd**, grand champion in points and continuous sparring; **Liam Rees**, grand champion in continuous sparring, runner up in point sparring; **Ollie Tipples**, grand champion in point sparring, runner up in continuous sparring; **Thomas Haysham**, grand champion in continuous sparring, runner up in point sparring; **Bradley Halford**, grand champion in points and continuous sparring.

grand champion in continuous sparring, runner up in point sparring and the pattern section; **Hayley Matthey**, grand champion in point sparring; **Thomas Haysham**, grand champion in point sparring, runner up in continuous sparring and patterns; **Lucy Newman**, losing out on the last day ended up as runner up in the point and continuous sparring and pattern sections; **Bradley Halford**, grand champion in points and continuous sparring.

Throughout the year, Bradley competed in a

higher category and finished as runner up.

**Charlotte Sullivan**, grand champion in point sparring was awarded the WOMAA competitor of the year.

**Morganne Gomez Jones**, grand champion in continuous sparring, was runner up in point sparring and was awarded the WOMAA student of the year.

For further information and training times phone Barry 406372 or 07811934079; see [www.taekwondoassociationeurope.co.uk](http://www.taekwondoassociationeurope.co.uk).

RT

## 'Jekyll and Hyde' Llantwit Major hold their nerve for win

LLANTWIT Major Reserves maintained their position as league leaders with a real Jekyll and Hyde display.

The first half saw the Major way below par, in contrast in the second period, when they were at times unplayable.

Llantwit, playing their first game for nearly a month due to the recent inclement weather and no fixtures over the festive period, were hoping to start brightly.

This was not to be the case as Cadoxton started much more the eager of the two sides, playing some good football.

The visitors deservedly took the lead after 10 minutes with a well-taken goal despite a hint of offside.

The home team found themselves level 10 minutes later, when the ball fell to Jason Fairchild. The veteran midfielder's goal-bound effort found the net with the help of a slight deflection.

The remainder of the first period petered out into a dull, scrappy affair with neither team creating much in the way of goal-scoring chances.

A few choice words from managers Callard and Grafton during the interval had the desired effect.

Llantwit began the second half with a vigour and desire that was lacking in the opening 45 minutes and blew their opponents away with a 15-minute spell of football that was worthy of a higher stage.

The rejuvenated Stephen Phillips notched the home teams second on 50 minutes, taking his tally to three goals in two games, the big No 9's determination was rewarded as he prodded home.

Phillips then turned provider for strike partner Dom White on 55 minutes, squaring the ball after tenacious work for White to stroke the ball into the gaping net.

The fourth came on the hour mark, Fairchild securing his brace with a powerful drive from 20 yards out after good team play involving Bright, Thomas, Phillips, White and Grafton.

The visitors added their second with 20 minutes remaining, the full-back rifling the ball past the unexercised Callard in the Major goal.

There were a few nervous moments five minutes later as Llantwit

defender Owen Morris sent a bullet header nestling into the corner of his own net to give the visitors their third.

Llantwit, confident in their own ability, didn't panic, continuing to play free flowing football and creating chances.

Within minutes, Bright thumped home from the edge of the box for the fifth to get the goal his fine display warranted.

The Major saved the best until last, substitute Joel Preece scoring with a rasping drive with just five minutes remaining, again the goal coming after some superb passing and movement throughout the team.

Man of the match was awarded to Jason Fairchild, who didn't waste a single pass, battled well and scored two fine goals.

Llantwit team: D Callard 6, O Morris 6, D Major (Capt) 7, J Grahame 7, J Thomas 7, G Jennings 7, P Grafton 7, J Fairchild 8, C Bright 7, D White 7, S Phillips 7. Subs: T Howles, D Lansdown, J Preece, R Grapes.

DC

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Manufacturer	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4	Manufacturer	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
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## 34th Welsh Schools Inter Schools Cross-Country Championships, Penlan, Brecon

# Vale girls outshine the boys at year's last fixture

THE Vale girls outshone the boys at the last major schools' cross-country fixture of the term - the 34th Welsh Schools' Inter Schools Championships, held for the 10th year at the Penlan arena at Brecon.

On a damp afternoon, with a biting cold north east breeze, the girls gained three sets of team medals, plus an individual top three placing, while the boys went away empty-handed.

In the opening event of the six race programme - for under-13 girls in years 7 and 8 - Cowbridge year-7 Seren Allin underlined her fitness and confidence level by tracking the runaway winner, Rosa Yates (Brynteg, year-8), to take third place in a field of nearly 100 finishers, a performance which sets her up nicely for the major competitions after Christmas.

Backing Seren were three year-8 pupils, Rebecca Thomas (24th), Ela Emyr (38th) and Brooke Langdon-Cryer (65th), with the team score of 130 proving good enough to take second place medals.

In addition to the Cowbridge contingent, it was a delight to see a significant Stanwell squad taking part, with year-8 Ana Mirza-Davies (23rd) leading her A squad to fourth place.

There was an unexpected outcome in the third race - for girls in years 9 and 10. Year-10 Megan Osborne (Llantwit) has always been in control of her Cardiff and the Vale Schools rivals and team-mates in age group races in the past but here, in a top quality field, she was knocked off top spot by Kate Coker (Stanwell, year-9).

Kate had a real confidence-boosting run to finish fourth with Megan, in seventh place, gaining some compensation by leading the Llantwit team - Erin Hayes (17th), Lucy Tarrant (19th) and Ellie Atkinson (53rd) - to the second place medals. Both Kate and Megan will be looking for even better performances in the second half of the winter cross-country programme.



Seren Allin (Cowbridge) on her way to individual bronze and team gold in the under-14 race.



'It's freezing - four Cowbridge girls prepare for the under-13 start.

gramme.

In the senior girls' race, year-12 Bethan Daw was the leading Vale finisher, taking a very creditable eighth place.

2009 was the first time in 10 years that Cowbridge had failed to take gold team medals in at least one age group at this event. After that blip, the Vale school was back to winning ways thanks to its year-11 team squad in the penultimate race of the day - for senior girls.

Although the first scorer to finish - Fiona Bray - was no higher than 16th, the team packed very well with Rachel Bradshaw (20th), Katie Wynne (22nd) and Bethan Allman (25th) chalking up a winning score of 83 points.

The top performance by a Vale boy came from Rian Thomas in the under-13 race. The year-8 pupil finished a very creditable 10th in the biggest field of the day - 105 finishers - and led his team - Dewi and Huw Bennett and Alex Love - to fourth place.

Year-11 Matthew Edwards (Barry Comprehensive) had been unwell before the event, and perhaps should not have competed. To his credit, he gave it a good go in a high quality field, but had to settle for 14th place.

One of the Vale boys who should have left the event feeling happy was Dafydd George. The Bro Morgannwg year-9, at the bottom end of the age group, again underlined his potential with a fine run in the under-15 race to take 15th place against more experienced boys.

More than 400 pupils made the long journey from all corners of Wales to compete, and the chairman of the Welsh Schools association - former Llantwit PE teacher Mrs Kath Elias - has asked that special thanks should be recorded to those schools like Cowbridge, Llantwit and Stanwell, who brought scoring teams to the event.

With the pre-Christmas schools programme now completed, many of the leading Vale runners who took part at Brecon can now start preparing and training to represent Cardiff and the Vale Schools at the Schools Invitation Inter-County & Inter District match, to be held within the McCain Cardiff Cross



Kate Coker (Stanwell, 226) and Megan Osborne (Llantwit, 466) the top Vale pupils in the under-16 girls race.

Challenge, at Blackweir on Sunday, January 16, 2011.

**Results of Vale pupils: Senior boys** - Years 11-14 - 5,300m - 54 finishers: 14 Matthew Edwards (Barry) 18:11; 26 Dominic Farr (Bro M) 19:22; 32 Rhys George (Bro M) 20:01; 41 Joseph Whitmarsh-Knight (Bro M) 20:51.

**Under-16 boys** - Years 10 and 11 - 4,120m - 76 finishers: 15 Dafydd George (Bro M) 15:19; 30 Elliot Richards (Stan) 16:02; 46 Tom Morgan Jones (Stan) 17:18; 57 Jason Sami (Cow) 17:28; 68 Liam Martin (Cow) 18:39; 73 Miles Jenkins (Cow) 19:07; 75 Chris Powell (Cow) 21:14.

**Teams:** 7 Cowbridge 244.

**Under-14 boys** - Years 7 and 8 - 2,800m 105 finishers: 10 Rian Thomas (Cow) 10:34; 22 Dewi Bennett (Cow) 10:54; 33 Alex Love (Cow) 11:21; 43 Aled George (Bro M) 11:35; 47 Spencer Robinson (Stan) 11:41; 49 Huw Bennett (Cow) 11:44; 61 Morgan Humphries (Stan) 11:53; 63 Sean Davies (Cow) 11:54; 64 Luke Jeffries (Cow) 11:55; 76 Will Gale (Stan) 12:19; 99 Nick Mackey (Stan) 13:28; 101 Lewis Campbell (Stan) 13:45; 102 Rhys Ford (Stan) 13:53.

**Teams:** 4 Cowbridge 114; 16 Stanwell 283.

**Senior girls** - Years 11-14 - 4,120m - 41 finishers: 8 Bethan Daw St Cyres 16:56; 14 Catlin Bryant (Cathod) 17:40; 16 Fiona Bray (Cow) 17:50; 20 Rachel Bradshaw (Cow) 19:22; 22 Katie Wynne (Cow) 19:24; 25 Bethan Allman (Cow) 20:01; 29 Anthea Young (Llantwit) 20:43.

**Teams:** 1 Cowbridge 83.

**Under-16 girls** -

Years 9 and 10 - 3,640m - 69 finishers: 4 Kate Coker (Stan) 13:31; 7 Megan Osborne (Llantwit) 13:42; 17 Erin Hayes (Llantwit) 14:11; 19 Lucy Tarrant (Llantwit) 14:24; 32 Miriam Bennett (Cow) 15:16; 49 Natasha Johnson (Cow) 16:48; 53 Ellie Atkinson (Llantwit) 17:17; 56 Laura Gale (Stan) 17:58; 57 Eleanor Morgan (Cow) 17:59; 60 Bethany Cleave (Llantwit) 18:18; 63 Jessica Ashill (Stan) 19:00; 64 Megan Langdon-Cryer (Cow) 19:08.

**Teams:** 2 Llantwit 96; 6 Cowbridge 202.

**Under-14 girls** - Years 7 and 8 - 2,800m - 94 finishers: 3 Seren Allin (Cow) 10:53; 23 Ana Mirza-Davies (Stan) 12:10; 24 Rebecca Thomas (Cow) 12:11; 26 Emily Wooster (Stan) 12:14; 38 Ela Emyr (Cow) 12:33; 40 Annabelle Birch-Hurst (Stan) 12:35; 54 Ysobel Williams (B of Llandaff) 13:03; 58 Ffion Adams (Stan) 13:20; 61 Georgia Logan-Davies (Stan) 13:23; 65 Brooke Langdon-Cryer (Cow) 13:30; 67 Alicia Thomas (Cow) 13:32; 69 Sally Gambling (Cow) 13:34; 72 Rebecca Humpage (Stan) 13:38; 75 Tizzie Birch-Hurst (Stan) 13:56; 76 Cerys Bradshaw (Cow) 13:57; 87 Emily Ross (Stan) 14:41; 88 Niamh Jenkins (Cow) 14:43; 89 Daisy Williams (Stan) 14:47.

**Teams:** 2 Cowbridge 130; 4 Stanwell 147; 10 Stanwell B 295; 11 Cowbridge B 300.

**Report by**

**PETER MORRIS**

**Photographs by**

**IAN DIXON**



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# GEM sport

## Barry win – but ‘curse of the scrum’ means it’s all a bit of a bore!

**ON Saturday Barry entertained Treherbert in a Division Four South East home fixture.**

Clearly, the away side were struggling to make anything of their season since they are bottom of the division and are yet to register a win.

The visitors arrived with only 15 players and lacked the resources to field a complete front row. This situation led to a farce; the whole game plagued by uncontested scrums.

Not only was the contest destroyed as entertainment, but it also meant that Barry could not make use of the strength of their tight forwards. With this advantage lost, the home side were robbed

of the opportunity to pressurise the visiting defence by creating forward momentum.

Barry began the first half playing up the slope and against a fairly brisk wind. They started brightly enough, with captain Brown crossing for an unconverted try after only a few minutes.

With Barry unable to exert any forward pressure, the first half meandered along with Treherbert making the most of scrappy play and camping in the “bottom corner” for long periods.

Good work by Provis and Evans did reverse the tide just before half-time and as a result, one of the visiting back row committed a professional foul.

He was duly reward-

### BARRY RFC 5 – 3 TREHERBERT

ed with 10 minutes rest and recuperation on the touchline.

With the home supporters groaning at such an unedifying spectacle, the second half continued in the same manner as the first. Treherbert did get a just reward for their efforts after 10 minutes with a penalty goal.

From this juncture, and until the end of the match, the Barry pack turned the screw on the opposition.

Their monopolised possession at lineout, maul and ruck and hampered away at the visitors’ defence but had no luck in adding any more points.

During this period the Barry backs had such an abundance of posses-

sion that the situation cried out for somebody to try a Plan B.

It could have been to attempt short kicks through or high balls over the top but no such variation in play was employed.

In the likely event that uncontested scrums will be encountered later this season, the coaches and players would be well advised to develop tactics to suit such circumstances.

Despite being a very disappointing game of rugby, there was the valuable consolation for Barry of a win.

It must be fervently hoped that the “powers that be” give urgent consideration to the effects that uncontested scrums from the outset have on the fabric of the game.

**Barry team:** Ryan, Adams, Busitil, Evans, Provis, Lee, Manford, Hunt, O’Sullivan, Hollister, McTavish, King, Gill, Brown, Jones. **Substitutes:** Williams, Deguarra, Haskell, Morgan.

With hopes that it will prove more entertaining, Barry’s next fixture is Saturday, January 15, away against Cardiff HSOB (kick off 2.30pm).

CO

## Great result for 10-man Sully Sports!

**AFTER the Christmas break, Sully Sports B returned to action with a league match against top of the table Cadoxton Imps B, who had just one loss to their season so far.**

Sully found themselves short on players due to illness and injuries and could only field a team of 10, giving coach Alun Owen and assistant Rhys James little to do when choosing the team.

On a pitch that would cut up, playing with only 10 men and against the table toppers, Sully knew they had the hardest test of the season ahead.

The boss Alun and assistant Rhys asked the players to give their all, keep the ball and try to counter when possible.

Sully won the toss and decided to play uphill first. Cadoxton started the game at a fast pace, looking to use the extra man from the start but the Sully defence of Joe McCann, Kevin Ball, Wesley Lamb and Dafydd Brown stood firm.

Sully were playing the ball up to lone striker Les Harrington at every opportunity, and he held the ball up each and every time bringing in the Sully midfield. This was where Sully were having most of their joy.

At 25 minutes into the half, Sully almost took the lead.

A free kick 30 yards out forced the keeper to

### Sully Sports B Cadoxton Imps

3  
2

fumble, the loose ball falling to midfielder Spencer Lamb who, with his back to goal, swivelled only to see his shot trickle off the post.

Cadoxton cleared the rebound and a long ball over the top saw the striker latch on, find himself one on one, and squeeze the ball under Ben Gillespie in the Sully goal, to put Cadoxton one up.

Sully were running themselves into the ground and now had to press for an equaliser, and it wasn’t long coming.

Sully were awarded a free kick 25 yards out, and up stepped Spencer Lamb, who put the ball in the top corner to give the Cadoxton keeper no chance.

The half time score was 1–1.

Sully started the second half full of confidence.

The Sully midfield of Jaime Lamb, Spencer Lamb, Sam Hulland and Graham Flanders worked hard, up and down the pitch.

It wasn’t long before Sully were rewarded for their work. A great run through the centre by Sam Hulland put the ball out left to Les Harrington, who ran through on goal and finished superbly with a dink over the advancing keeper for 2–1 to Sully.

This goal seemed to really lift Sully who fancied another, and were denied a third following

an offside decision. A great run by centre half Kevin Ball saw him through one on one with the keeper. He unselfishly squared the ball to Les Harrington, only for the goal to be ruled out.

Sully needed a third. Excellent work down the left involving Daf Brown, Graham Flanders and then Sam Hulland, saw Sam in the box at the by line running through on goal.

Instead of squaring the ball, Sam went for goal and somehow squeezed the ball in at the near post. Sully were 3–1 up with 10 minutes to go.

Sully were all but dead on their feet and with Cadoxton making changes, they knew the last 10 minutes would be hard.

Cadoxton pulled a goal back late on.

Sully were relieved to hear the final whistle and finish the game 3–2 winners.

Each and every player worked his socks off and are a credit to the team.

Credit also to Alun Owen and assistant Rhys James who work tirelessly to make this team play.

**Sully team:** Ben Gillespie, Joe McCann, Kevin Ball, Wesley Lamb, Daf Brown, Jaime Lamb, Spencer Lamb, Sam Hulland, Graham Flanders, Les Harrington.

**Subs:** would have loved some! JL

## Cadoxton Barry lose a man but gain a point!

**A Darren Baker goal that seemed to go against all the laws of nature wasn’t enough to give Cadoxton Barry the three points that their heroic 10-man display fully deserved.**

Trailing by a goal with just 10 minutes remaining, good play by Mills saw the ball reach Baker, whose snapshot from the edge of the box appeared to be going well wide and way too high at the moment it left his boot. But in mid-flight it took an amazing bend, dipping over the head of a totally bemused Stark in the Pentwyn goal.

After just two minutes, Bickley appeared to pull down a Pentwyn forward just outside the box. The

**South Wales Senior League Division One CADOXTON BARRY F.C. 1 PENTWYN DYNAMOS 1**

referee ruled that the player was ahead of the last line of defence, leaving him no choice other than to wave the red card.

Neither side created any real chances until the 15th minute when Mills sent in a belter from way out on the right hand edge of the box that Stark got well behind.

The Dynamos were beginning to see a bit more of the ball as the game wore on and when Campbell rose majestically to head home a quality corner, spectators could have been forgiven for thinking that this might be a sign that the 10 men were beginning to tire.

In the second half the Barry side continued to

dominate possession. An equaliser looked likely when a cross from Mills looked destined for Baker’s head; however Dynamo player Cummings seemed to arrive form nowhere to make the interception. Then, a long rang dip from Ross Matthews went only just over the bar.

Baker’s equaliser saw Cadoxton go all out for a winner. Mills headed wide while a second yellow saw Thomas Barry get his marching orders and Pentwyn clung on to their hard-earned point.

This Saturday, Cadoxton Barry are away to Tonypanby. Players and supporters in need of transport are invited to meet up at Cadoxton Conservative Club by 11:45am.

Meanwhile Cadoxton Barry Seconds are at Cogan Coronation Seconds in the Supporters’ Cup and Cadoxton Barry Thirds play FC Pumas Seconds in the Docker’s Cup at the Colcot Sports Centre.

This week’s lottery numbers were 1, 3, 5, 8, 10 and 18. There were no winners so next week the prize on offer will rise to £350.

## Tom’s long trip is well worth it

### ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

**‘HAVE saddle, will travel,’ is the motto of Tom David, who last week landed the Victor Chandler.com Juvenile Hurdle at Ayr on Mary Findlay’s four-year-old First Fandango which is trained by Tim Vaughan at Aberthyn.**

In an exciting finish, the 5–4 favourite held on to win by a head from *Vogues*.

At Fakenham, *Lukie Victor* trained by Evan Williams at Llancarfan, and ridden by Adam Wedge, made all the running to win the

Wensum Handicap Chase.

The 10-year-old was winning for the first time since 2008 and went off the 15–8 favourite.

Williams had plenty to smile about at Ffos Las where he saddled a double with *Oscar GoGo* and *Pilgreen*. The former, ridden by Adam Wedge, had four lengths to spare over the Tim Vaughan trained *BetABob* in the handicap chase and the latter beat *Master Fiddle* by two lengths in the maiden hurdle.

Confidently ridden by Paul Moloney, *Pilgreen* was backed from 8–1 to 7–2 to land some nice bets.

## Scots lie in wait!

**I WONDER if any of your readers could tell us if there is any truth in the rumour that several Welsh rugby team members have applied to get on ‘Strictly Come Dancing’?**

It is said that this is to keep them in shape after the Six Nations competition, and let’s face it – it did no harm at all, to one Welsh player who participated!

Do I hear you saying: “It’s better than chasing a sheep around

the mountains in your kilts and wellies?”

Well, I’m not sure, at least we get fresh air and no “Brucie”!

However, you will have noticed how much Scotland has improved so you know what to expect on Saturday, February 12. As long as you beat England on Friday, February 4, we promise to be gentle with you!

Oh, by the way, any of you are in our area, let me know and we will organise a get-together.

Tom Handy, Crieff, Scotland.

## Barry under-8s remain unbeaten

**BARRY under-8s RFC carried on their unbeaten season with a fine display of flowing rugby against St Joseph’s, running, in 10 tries.**

The home side, playing up the slope started the brighter and with tries from J Roberts, C Saunders (two), E Galsworthy and Parry-Griffiths they had a 5–3 lead at the break.

As the temperature rose so did Barry, running in a further five tries from J Roberts (two), C Denbury, E Galsworthy and J Couch. Well done all, great team display.

No game next week – just training, 10am, Barry Rugby Club.

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